



# ECHO IRELAND

Journal of the  
Irish Radio Transmitters Society

July 2009



Dundalk Amateur Radio Society celebrated 40 years with an all-band activity weekend at the home of Society Chairman Thos Caffrey EI2JD (See pages 24 and 25 inside)

## Society Officers 2008/2009

President:	Paul Martin EI2CA	087-2523908	paul@comma.ie
Vice President:	Seamus McCague EI8BP		
Hon. Vice-Presidents:	Sean Nolan EI7CD	01-2851599	ei7cd@gofree.indigo.ie
	Dave Moore EI4BZ	087-6290574	ei4bz@eircom.net
Auditors:	Brendan De hÓra, EI3GV; Brendan Lynch, EI6GA		
Secretary:	Ger Gervin EI8CC		
Treasurer:	Sean Donelan EI4GK	01-2821420	donelansean@gmail.com
P.R.O.:	Paul Martin EI2CA	087-2523908	paul@comma.ie
AREN Co-Ordinator:	John Ronan EI7IG	086 8167310	ei7ig@aren.ie
Awards Committee:	Peter Grant EI4HX (Chair)	087-9772904	ei4hxpperimental@eircom.net
	Pat Fitzpatrick EI2HX, Pat O'Connor EI9HX.		
ComReg Liaison	Sean Nolan EI7CD	01-2851599	ei7cd@gofree.indigo.ie
Contest Manager:	Thos Caffrey EI2JD	087-2953256	thoscaffrey@hotmail.com
EMC:	Brendan Minish EI6IZ	086-2501832	ei6iz.Brendan@gmail.com
EuroCom	Sean Donelan EI4GK	01-2821420	donelansean@gmail.com
Gaeilge:	Pádraig Ó Meachair EI7GK	0404-67658	ei7gk@esatclear.ie
External Awards/WEIC:	Sean Nolan, EI7CD	01-2851599	ei7cd@gofree.indigo.
IARU	Sean Nolan, EI7CD	01-2851599	ei7cd@gofree.indigo.ie
IARUMS	Ger McNamara EI4GXB		ei4gxb@gmail.co
IRTS Shop:	Peter Grant EI4HX	087-9772904	ei4hxpperimental@eircom.net
Membership Officer:	Joe Ryan EI7GY	01-2854250	jryan@iol.ie
Morse Testing Co-Ord.:	Sean Donelan EI4GK	01-2821420	donelansean@gmail.com
Chief Morse Tester:	Dan Lloyd EI3AE	01-8382774	daniellloyd@eircom.net.
P.O. Box 462	Michael McNamara EI2CL	01-8372493	ei2clmike@eircom.net
Publications Editor:	Dave Moore EI4BZ	021-4883555	davebeag@gmail.com
Publications Distribution	Sean Donelan EI4GK	01-2821420	donelansean@gmail.com
Radio News Editor:	Charlie Carolan EI8JB	087 6265418	charlie.carolan@gmail.com
Repeater Co-ordinator	John McCarthy EI8JA		
Theory Examination	Sean Nolan EI7CD	01-2851599	ei7cd@gofree.indigo.
	(Sub – Committee Chairman)		
VHF Manager:	Trevor Dunne EI2GLB		ei2glb@hotmail.com
WAI Awards Manager:	Tom Rea EI2GP	093-35523	tomrea@eircom.net
WAI Book Sales:	Dave Moore EI4BZ	087-6290574	davebeag@gmail.com
Webmaster:	Gerry Kavanagh EI8DRB		

### QSL Bureau

QSL Inwards Manager:	Pat Fitzpatrick EI2HX.	041-9841817	patfitzpatrick@hotmail.com
QSL Outwards Manager:	Tony Baldwin EI8JK		ei8jk@amsat.org
Incoming QSL Sub Managers:			
0/1/Calls & SWL:	John Browne EI7FAB.		
2 Series Calls:	Thos Caffrey EI2JD	087-2953256	thoscaffrey@hotmail.com
3 Series Calls:	Pat Fitzpatrick EI2HX.	041-9841817	patfitzpatrick@hotmail.com
4 Series Calls:	Jim Ryan EI3DP	021-4632365	sigma4@oceanfree.net
5 Series Calls	Terry Webb EI4GLB		
6 Series Calls:	Rory Hinchy EI4DJB		rhinchy@iee.org
7 Series Calls	Ger McNamara EI4GXB		ei4gxb@gmail.com
8 Series Calls:	Brian Canning EI8IU	086-2514822	brianei8iu@eircom.net
9 Series Calls:	Dave Deane EI9FBB	083-3317940	ei9fbb@oceanfree.net

### News Bulletins and Readers

<b>Sunday</b>				
Dublin	1100	7.043	SSB	Colm EI3H, Sean EI7CD, Gerry EI8CC, Roland EI4GYB Ger EI4GXB
Wicklow	1130	3.680	SSB	(as Gaeilge) Paddy EI7GK, Danny EI6GS
Dublin	1145	145.525	FM	Tony EI5EM, John EI7JG
Dublin	1200	3.650	SSB	As 1100
Mayo	2000	145.600	FM	John EI7IQ, Padraic EI9JA, Jimmy EI2GCB
Tipperary	2030	145.450	FM	Tommy EI7IT, John EI2JB, Andy EI5JF
Dublin	2130	145.525	FM	As 1145
<b>Monday</b>				
Cork	2000	145.750	FM	Vincent EI7HN
Limerick	2000	145.725	FM	Brian EI9AL, Tony EI2AW
Louth	2000	145.675		Peter EI4HX, Thos EI2JD
Galway	2000	145.625		Steve EI5DD
<b>Tuesday</b>				
Waterford	2130	145.650	FM	Gareth EI7FZB, Robbie EI8FZB

## Contents

<i>Society Officers &amp; Committee Members:</i>	.... 2
<i>New Amateur Radio Regulations</i>	..... 3
<i>IRTS Letter to ComReg</i>	..... 4/5
<i>Reply from ComReg</i>	..... 6
<i>Antenna fro a small garden by EI2AJ</i>	..... 7
<i>Silent Keys - EI3FG and EI7FT</i>	..... 7
<i>HF Happenings with Dave EI9FBB</i>	..... 8/10
<i>ATV with Pat EI2HX</i>	..... 11
<i>VHF Column with EI2GLB</i>	..... 12/13
<i>Balloon Club at Friedrichshafen</i>	..... 13
<i>Pictured from 2009 AGM in Athlone</i>	..... 14
<i>Awards presented at 2009 AGM</i>	..... 15
<i>Treasurers Report to 2009 AGM</i>	..... 16/17
<i>Committee Report to 2009 AGM</i>	..... 18/21
<i>Galway VHF Group in PW 4m contest</i>	..... 23
<i>Dundalk ARS celebrate 40 years</i>	..... 24/25
<i>2009 CW Field Day Results</i>	..... 26
<i>DXCC &amp; E-QSL EI Listings</i>	..... 27
<i>500kHz licence</i>	..... 28
<i>Galway VHF Group in 80m Counties</i>	..... 28
<i>IRTS Shop</i>	..... 28
<i>Scorpion (Advert)</i>	..... 29
<i>SEARG on the Copper Coast</i>	..... 29
<i>Contest Calendar</i>	..... 29
<i>Spring 80m Counties Contest Results</i>	..... 30
<i>EI9ES receives the Hal Hodgens Key</i>	..... 30
<i>Friedrichshafen Report</i>	..... 30
<i>JBT Trading (Advert)</i>	..... 31
<i>South East Communications (Advert)</i>	..... 32

## Committee Members 2009/10

### Elected

EI2HX	Pat Fitzpatrick
EI4GK	Sean Donelan
EI4GXB	Ger McNamara
EI4HH	James Holohan
EI4HX	Peter Grant
EI6IZ	Brendan Minish
EI6JK	Mark Condon
EI7GY	Joe Ryan
EI8CC	Ger Gervin
EI8JB	Charlie Carolan
EI9HX	Pat O'Connor

### Co-Opted

EI7CD	Sean Nolan
-------	------------

**Newsletter input to  
davebeag@gmail.com**

# New Licence Regulations from June 1st 2009

In early May licensed radio experimenters received letters from ComReg informing them that as from the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2009 a new licensing scheme for Amateur Radio Licences would come into force following the implementation of the Wireless Telegraphy (Amateur Station Licence) Regulations 2009. This in effect meant that the new lifetime licences would be Amateur Radio Licences.

The new Regulations were made by the Commission for Communications Regulation with the consent of the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources as required by the provisions of the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1926.

The new Regulations which are Statutory Instrument No 192 of 2009 became available on the ComReg website on the evening of 28 May.

They are included in Document 09/45 – Amateur Station Licence Guidelines - which is available on the licensing section of the ComReg website at [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie)

These letters came as a surprise to all since any documentation published by ComReg about the lifetime licence was in the context of the continuance of Experimenter Licences.

There was no discussion between ComReg and the Society about such a change nor was there any indication of an intention to change to Amateur licences despite our meeting of 12 February 2009 at which the implementation of the lifetime licence was briefly discussed.

The Committee at its meeting on 16 May had a lengthy, open and wide ranging discussion on this matter to which virtually all present contributed. In the course of the discussion it became clear that while there were some differing views on the change to amateur licences, the great majority of Committee members were of the view that in the overall it was at worst neutral and at best beneficial in terms of frequency allocation and protection.

At the conclusion of the discussion the consensus was that a letter be sent to ComReg expressing disappointment at the lack of consultation or even notification of the impending change and pointing out that all of the frequency bands in the European Common Allocations table and ComReg's Radio Frequency Plan for Ireland which are designated for the Amateur service, should be automatically made available under the new amateur Radio Lifetime Licences.

It was also agreed that the letter request that ComReg publish on its website the definition of the Amateur service as contained in the ITU Radio Regulations as this definition highlights the self-training and technical investigations aspects of amateur radio which by their very nature involve experimentation.

On the following pages is a copy of the letter sent to ComReg on 25 May together with ComReg's response of 3 June.

It is evident from the reply that ComReg does not intend the change in any way to represent a diminution in the status of radio amateurs in Ireland.

It is worth noting that the Explanatory Note to the Regulations states that

*"These Regulations provide for the licensing of apparatus for wireless telegraphy forming part of an Amateur Station, used for the purposes of conducting experiments and self-training in wireless telegraphy ----- "*

Looking at the frequency allocations section of the licence in the Guidelines document referred to above it is a positive change that the requirement for extra authorisation has been removed for the bands

135.7 to 137.8 kHz  
2300 to 2400 MHz  
5650 to 5850 MHz  
10.0 to 10.5 GHz

A new all mode segment, including Fast Scan TV, has also been introduced at 5570 to 5650 MHz.

In addition the requirement for attenuation of spurious, about which we had written to ComReg quite some time ago, has been revised to comply with a less stringent requirement for Amateur stations following a decision at WRC'03.

For practical purposes this means that the requirement is now 50 dB down for all bands rather than the 70 dB down that applied to the HF bands heretofore.

It is worth noting that

- All of the main frequency bands, powers and modes in Annex 2 of the Guidelines document will be made available on the grant of an amateur licence.
- Additional frequency bands and/or power levels over those specified in Annex 2 are available for amateur use for experimental purposes – see section 5.6 of the Guidelines document.

These are some of what could be regarded as positive aspects of the change.

One big downside that has been identified recently is that additional facilities such as 5 MHz will only be granted for a year, must be re-applied for and will cost €30 at each application. Any amendment to a licence costs €30 – see section 4.5 of the guidelines for examples of what constitutes an amendment.

It would seem that a number of amendments could be processed using the same application form, ComReg 09/45(d), for a single fee.



# Irish Radio Transmitters Society

Member of the International Amateur Radio Union

P.O. Box 462, Dublin 9

[www.irts.ie](http://www.irts.ie)



Tara Kavanagh,  
Licensing Operations Manager  
ComReg

25th May 2009

## Re: Lifetime Licences

Dear Tara,

I have been requested by the Committee of the above Society to write to you about the letters that have been issuing from ComReg to licensed radio experimenters informing them that the new lifetime licences will be Amateur Radio Licences. This new arrangement is to take effect from 1 June 2009 following the implementation of the Wireless Telegraphy (Amateur Station Licence) Regulations 2009.

These letters came as quite a surprise to the Society and to the licensed radio experimenter community in general given that all of the ComReg published documentation in which the lifetime licence was referred to was in the context of lifetime experimenter licences. I refer specifically to the following ComReg documents:

- Consultation Paper of 28 July 2005 – ‘Review of fees applicable to Rights of Use of Radio Frequencies’ – Document 05/58
- ComReg’s response to the Consultation Paper in Document 05/89 of 7 December 2005.  
This document contained a decision in paragraph 5.8.3 i) at page 20 in the following terms  
“As per the consultation proposal, lifetime experimenter licences will be issued for repeaters, clubs and individuals.”
- ‘Spectrum Management Strategy Statement 2008-2010’ of 1 July 2008, Document 08/50. The decision was reiterated in paragraph 5.11 at page 26 where it states “Implement a once-off, life-time fee structure for experimenters;”

In addition, at a meeting on 12 February 2009, the ComReg representatives, while unable to provide us with a copy of the draft Regulations, assured representatives of the Society that there was nothing in them that need cause us concern.

I think you will agree that the Society had very good grounds for believing that the proposed revised Regulations were only to give effect to the introduction of lifetime licensing and that no fundamental change to the licensing system was being made.

The Committee of the Society at its meeting on 16 May had a lengthy, open and wide ranging discussion on the matter. While there were some differing views on the merits or otherwise of the change, there was general agreement that it would have been more satisfactory had the Society been consulted or at least given some notice of the intended change. This would have been more in keeping with the spirit of partnership and cooperation that the Society has been seeking to cultivate with ComReg for some time and is demonstrated by the recent agreements on 5 MHz and 500 kHz licences. The success of the arrangement between ComReg and the Society for the Theory licensing examination is a further example of fruitful cooperation.

You can, perhaps, appreciate our sense of disappointment in that the experimenter community was essentially ignored on the matter of the change to Amateur Licences. As was pointed out in a letter of 1 December 2008 to Brian Whelan, we consider the Society to be a constructive, knowledgeable consultative resource that is available to ComReg and that has the capacity to sound out, reflect and represent the views of the great majority of active licensed experimenters.

In that same letter the Society, as the representative organisation of the sole client group, sought to be consulted on any proposed changes in the Regulations and to be given an opportunity to submit observations on them. It is a source of regret to us that the opportunity to engage in a consultative process was not availed of by ComReg. We can well understand that some of the regulatory matters that ComReg must deal with are commercially sensitive and for this reason consultation cannot take place on them.

However, we suggest that regulations relating to licensed experimenters are in a different category in that they have no commercial impact or significance and regulate an activity that is engaged in

*“solely for the purposes of conducting experiments, intercommunication and self training in wireless telegraphy;”*  
as the 2002 Experimenter Regulations describe it. We are at a loss to understand why a consultative process was not engaged in that probably would have been beneficial to ComReg and the experimenter community.

However regrettable this was not done and the relevant Regulations have now been made by ComReg with the consent of the

*(Continued on page 5)*

Minister for Communications Energy and Natural Resources. In the context of the issue of Amateur radio Licences I attach a Table which we have compiled. This Table used the ComReg Frequency Plan for Ireland, Document 08/90 of 20 November 2008 and extracted from it all of the frequencies designated Amateur or Amateur Secondary in the European Common Allocations Table (ECA). Opposite these it sets out the National Usage as indicated in the Frequency Plan, the status of these frequencies in relation to licensed experimenters and a comparison with the position of Radio Amateurs in the UK.

The Society wished to represent strongly that all of the frequencies which are designated Amateur or Amateur Secondary in the ECA should be automatically made available under the new Amateur Radio lifetime licences particularly since they are already available to Radio Amateurs in the UK.

In fact Document 05/89 of 7 December 2005, which is referred to above and which contains the decision to issue lifetime licences also states that

*“licences issued under the proposed new scheme will be valid for all modes and frequency bands relevant to the class of licence held.”*

Since the class of licences, from now on, will be Amateur Radio Licences it follows that all of the amateur allocations in the ECA should be automatically made available here as they are in the UK and at the same power levels. It would not seem logical to have different frequency allocations for amateur stations in Newry and Dundalk. It is as well to point out that in the UK both the Intermediate and Full levels of licensee have all of the bands shown in the Table. The only difference is that the Intermediate level licensees are confined to a maximum power of 50 watts. The following is a link to a sample UK licence document.

Tables B and C on pages 18-21 set out details of all the frequency allocations to Intermediate and Full amateur Licence holders.

<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radiocomms/ifi/licensing/classes/amateur/Licences/samplelicence07.pdf>

The Society requests that, in the revision of information on its website, ComReg include the formal definition of the Amateur service from the ITU Radio Regulations as this definition highlights the self - training and technical investigations aspects of amateur radio which by their very nature involve experimentation.

The Society is confident that we can move forward in a spirit of constructive cooperation that has been evident in our recent interaction with ComReg on other matters.

Yours sincerely,

**Seán Nolan**

--

-----  
Seán Nolan EI7CD  
IRTS/ComReg Liaison

**Note:** In addition to the frequencies shown in the Table, 1300-1304 MHz is available on a secondary basis subject to extra authorisation for repeater operation only.

The Frequency Plan for Ireland designates 5470-5650 MHz on a secondary basis for Amateur Fast Scan TV but it is not allocated to Experimenters



Wolf DK2OM Region 1 IARUMS Co-ordinator and Ger EI4GXB IRTS Co-ordinator at Friedrichshafen



Tony EI3HA and Michael EI5EAB, members of the organising Shannon Basin Club at the AGM in Athlone.



3 June 2009



Sean Nolan  
Irish Radio Transmitter Society  
12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road  
Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin

**Ref: Lifetime Licences**

Dear Sean,

Your letter of 25 May 2009 raised a number of concerns which I would like to take this opportunity to address. The new Amateur Station Licence Regulations introduce Lifetime licences for all radio amateurs. The only fundamental change to our mind, the introduction of a lifetime licence was consulted upon and there is no fundamental change taking place with respect to the licensing of spectrum used by radio amateurs in Ireland.

ComReg has made a fairly minor decision that, in line with best practise, that use of the term 'experimenter' should lapse and be replaced with 'Radio Amateur'. It is ComReg's belief that this does not in any way represent a diminution of the status of radio amateurs in Ireland but rather now correctly reflects the definitions of the amateur service and experimenter service as agreed internationally, by treaty agreement, through the ITU.

This new framework now makes a clear distinction between radio amateurs licensed under the Amateur Station Licence Regulations and licensees conducting tests and experiments under ComReg's Test Licence regime (1).

There is however no legal impediment to any person referring to themselves as experimenters but ComReg will no longer do so. As requested ComReg has updated its website to reflect the new licensing regime and included the definition of Amateur service from the ITU Radio Regulations.

ComReg does not include draft regulations as part of its consultation process. All draft Regulations are subject to change by the Minister at his unfettered discretion. Fundamentally 1 See ComReg document 05/35 Opportunities for Testing and Trialling Wireless Services and technologies in Ireland.

ComReg has no authority to consult on draft Regulations that have not been approved by the Minister.

In your letter you requested that all holders of Amateur Station Licences be permitted access to all the amateur allocations in the European Common Allocation (ECA) tables. The ECA table is a European harmonisation tool for National Regulatory Authority (NRA) to take into consideration when making spectrum allocations within the best interests of their country.

Each NRA has discretion to allocate and assign frequencies that best suits their national needs having regard to the ECA. ComReg does not permit access to certain frequency bands allocated to Amateurs in the ECA, such as the 3.4 – 3.6 GHz as this is extensively used for the provision of wireless broadband throughout the country.

On the other hand ComReg does permit access by radio amateurs to frequency bands not allocated to Amateurs internationally or in the ECA, such as the use of the 5 MHz band. The new Amateur Station Licence guidelines have increased the number of privileges that are available to radio amateurs without the requirement for additional authorisation from ComReg.

In its Spectrum Management Strategy Statement of 2005 – 2007 ComReg stated that it would make the spectrum in the 76- 250 GHz range available for radio amateurs. No interest to date was shown in gaining access to these bands and as such they are currently not available for amateur usage. However this does not mean that in the future they could not be allocated for radio amateur use if there is justifiable demand by a significant number of potential users.

Finally with regard to the matter of permitting radio amateurs use higher powers such as those that apply in the UK. As with access to particular frequencies, NRAs have discretion with regard to permitted power levels that apply for each different service across the entire radio spectrum.

There are power and access differences in a number of frequency bands between Ireland and the UK and not just with respect to the amateur service. At this juncture ComReg is still awaiting adequate evidence from interested parties with a view to increasing the power levels that can be used by radio amateurs in Ireland.

Yours sincerely,

Tara Kavanagh  
Licensing Operations Manager

(1). See ComReg document 05/35 Opportunities for Testing and Trialling Wireless Services and technologies in Ireland.

# Antenna for a very small garden

By Tom EI2AJ

I have a very small garden and as the XYL and I are avid gardeners, space is at a premium. A greenhouse and garden shed plus flowerbeds, vegetable patch and a lawn/patio make a large antenna farm impossible.

I have for some time been using a Carolina Windom for 20 to 6 metres with a total length of 34 feet. This was very successful on 20 metres with four wins in the SDR Spring Challenge CW competition. It also worked on the higher bands and also the WARC bands.

I missed 40 and 80m so decided to remove the Windom and do some research on verticals with particular regard to relative price and efficiency. I finally decided on the Sandpiper MV 10. This antenna is a multi-band vertical of unusual design.

I list all the technical details and measurements for your perusal. It should be erected on a ground post 18 to 24" above the ground plus an earth rod or a few random radials. The garden layout did not permit this type of install but following lengthy talks with the designer/manufacture, I put it on a short 8 foot length of steel mast which is heavily grounded with a few earth rods and many random radials from a previous antenna installation. The supplier felt this would work.

I am no longer allowed to climb ladders so two kind colleagues from the Phoenix ARC kindly erected it for me. Assembly was simple and parts were of a high standard of manufacture.

As you can see, the seven trapped capacitive hat rods are quickly measured and screwed into place on the ring. Each rod is carefully numbered 1 to 7 so there is no risk of mis-measurement. The 160m (top band) section is ten measured and screwed on the top of the assembly. The antenna was then attached to a sandpapered section at the top of the mast and as a further precaution, one of the mounting bolts was earthed by heavy copper to a grounding post at the base of the mast. A 50Ω co-ax connection was made to the ATU/Rig and tests followed.

The first test contacts were made on 20m and results around eastern Europe and Russia were 599 and 589.

Later tests on 30, 40 and 80m were made as the evening and night progressed. As a totally CW operator, the rod components were tuned for the CW ends of the bands and the resulting SWR readings were a little on the high side so further tuning will be necessary. The use of a manual ATU solved the immediate problem.

Although an anti-contester, I tried the US on 20m for two hours during the ARRL contest and worked the following states using 50w CW: Virginia, Ontario, New Hampshire, Ohio, Indiana, Florida, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Maine.

I have worked as a professional on the trawler band but never had an antenna for 160m in 48 years on amateur radio operation. I did one evening work IV3RK who gave me a 569 report - a great thrill!

In conclusion - I am very happy with the antenna which is very well made and easy to erect. The price was £160.00 plus £13.00 carriage.

Sandpiper Aerial Technology have a website displaying a variety of vertical and dipole antennas.



## Silent Key EI3FG

It is sad to report the death of former IRTS Newsreader Jack Kane, EI3FG of Branchfield, Ballymote, Co. Sligo. Jack read the news on the Sligo repeater for many years and was a friendly amateur who helped and encouraged newcomers to the hobby. His passing is a great loss and we extend deepest sympathies to his family.

## Silent Key EI7FT

It is with regret that we announce the recent death of Pat Tobin, EI7FT. Pat was an active member of the North Dublin Radio Club in the past although he was not active in recent times. Pat's XYL Margaret was also licensed. May he rest in peace.

## ComReg Consultation on the 2300 to 2400 MHz Band

ComReg has published a consultation paper on the release of spectrum in the 2300 to 2400 MHz band. The paper is Document 09/49 of 15 June and is available in the Publications section of the ComReg website at [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie). This band is an amateur secondary allocation. The IRTS will in due course prepare a response to this consultation paper and we would encourage interested individuals and radio clubs to do so as well. Licensees who have views which they wish to have reflected in the IRTS response should communicate by e-mail to [ei7cd/at/gofree.indigo.ie](mailto:ei7cd/at/gofree.indigo.ie). Responses to the consultation paper must be submitted before 5 p.m. on 29 July next.

## Echo Ireland Input

Please note that the email address [ei4bz@eircom.net](mailto:ei4bz@eircom.net) has been ceased.

The new address for Dave EI4BZ is [davebeag@gmail.com](mailto:davebeag@gmail.com)

Apologies to those who submitted material to the old address as it cannot be accessed.

*Dave EI4BZ*

## Echo Ireland on PDF.

If you would like to receive Echo Ireland by way of electronic download, and so help to reduce the Society's postage bill, please advise the Membership Records Officer.

Include your call sign and email address in the request, and send it to:

**[memrecords@irts.ie](mailto:memrecords@irts.ie)**



# HF Happenings

with Dave Deane EI9FBB

Welcome to the latest edition of 'HF Happenings and this one with a slightly unusual IOTA twist to inform and prepare those interested in the forthcoming **IOTA contest ( 25/26<sup>th</sup> July '09)**.

Anyone active on HF recently will surely have noticed and will be availing of the enhanced conditions due to recent sunspot activity. This is certainly most welcomed and has brought some excellent conditions to the higher bands, resulting in frequent DX opportunities on both 10 & 12m.

At long last it has been possible to work all 6 continents on 12m quite easily, and NA/SA 10m paths are also regular events now. 20m remains open now well into the small hours mostly to NA/SA however, VK / ZL via long path are also quite strong at times. Activity on 17m however seems to have decreased as of late as this is probably due to those involved now appear to have 'migrated' to the higher bands. Regular checks on this band are advised as there are still excellent Pacific paths open during our morning times. KL7 and KH6 are workable most mornings for example.

30m to 12m are the bands of choice this month and will provide some choice DX even for the more casual operator. Despite the lack of recent major DXpeditions for us to be chasing, perhaps one ought to listen for the smaller, one man show or holiday style trips that are always abundant during the Summer months. These can often add a 'new one' to your DXCC or perhaps add to one's DX Challenge. Alternatively, take up the world of IOTA hunting and keep record of your IOTA totals which can also be used towards another great award scheme (<http://www.rsgbiota.org>). It is surprising how many IOTA's one may already have without realising it as many unique DXCCs actually have their own IOTA reference also. Below is a partial list of IOTA activations that have been announced for the forthcoming IOTA contest.

OH/G4FSU, Ian, will be on Emasalo Island, EU-097, July 21-August 16 including the IOTA contest. Look for him near IOTA and QRP frequencies. QSL to his home call. <http://ian.greenshields.googlepages.com/emasalo>.

Rathlin Island in Northern Ireland, EU-122, is the destination for the Kilmarnock & Loudoun ARC for the IOTA contest July 25-26. GM3OZB, GM3YEH, GM4OSS, GM0DJG and MM0BIM will operate. QSL via MM0DHQ, bureau preferred.

The usual gang Sean EI4GK, Declan EI9HQ, Pete EI4GZB, Pete GI4VIV and Joe EI7GY are going back to Rathlin Island again, and will be using **GI0MPG**

Members of the Dalkey Island Contest Group plan to activate Clare Island for the forthcoming IOTA Contest. The callsign **EJ1DD** will be used in a '100 watt DXpedition' entry and the IOTA reference is EU-121. QSL information is via EI7CC. Operators will be EI2CA, EI5DI, EI6EW, EI7CC, EI7CD, EI8BP and EI8CE. Look for activity also from the individual operators using the EJ prefix between 23-27 July.

Members of the Radio Club of Provins (F6KOP) will be QRV as TM7C from Noirmoutier Island (EU-064) again for the 2009 RSGB IOTA Contest over the July 25/26 weekend. Team members will include F9IE, F6AML, F8BJI, F5CWU, F5JSD

and F5NQL. F5AGB and F5VHQ may also participate. QSL via F5CWU

Look for VE8EV, John, to be QRV with special call VC8B from Sachs Harbour, Banks Island (NA-129), NT, Canada from July 24th to 27th, including the RSGB IOTA Contest. Activity will only be on SSB mainly on 20 meters, although he will be listening on 15 and 10 meters. QSL via VE8EV with SAE and one IRC or two greenstamps.

MM0NDX/p, Col, will be in the St. Kilda Islands, EU-059, July 24-27, planning to operate a little on 80-10 SSB and sign GM5A in the IOTA event. QSL via GM4FDM. <http://eu059.wordpress.com/>

The Tokyo Dental College, JA1YUC, will have a special call, 8J120TDC/2 on the air from AS-117, Mikomoto Island, July 26-28. Look for them on 40, 20, 17 and 15M CW and SSB, and they plan to be in the IOTA Contest. They are celebrating the 120 years of their school. QSL via the JA1YUC address on QRZ.com or via the JARL bureau.

MM/DL6MHW, Michael, will be on EU-008, Isle of Mull, Scotland, for the contest. QSL via DL6MHW.

A group from the Sevrans Radio Club (F5KKD) plan to operate from two French IOTAs. First stop is Sein Island (EU-068) from July 24-27, including the RSGB IOTA Contest. Next they plan to go to Belle Ile Island (EU-048) from September 11 to 14. Activity will be on HF, VHF and UHF. QSL both operations via F5KKD, via the bureau. More information can be found at <http://iota2009.crxcluster.com>.

During the RSGB IOTA Contest TA2RC will be operating with special call YM0T from Kefken Island (AS-159). QSL via TA2RC.

ES0U will be on Saaremaa Island, Estonia, EU-034 in the IOTA Contest, July 25-26. Operating will be ES1LS, ES1QV, ES2EZ, ES2DJ and ES2QN. QSL via the bureau

F/ON7JA, Jan, will go to Ile de Noirmoutier, EU-064, July 25-27 including the IOTA event. QSL to his home call direct or bureau, no eQSL.

KO1U, Mark, will go to Cousins Island and Little John Island, both in Maine, USA, and both NA-137, July 25 at 10Z until July 26 at 23Z. He will have verticals for 80-10M and a small Yagi on 6. He will concentrate his activity in the IOTA Contest. QSL to his home call.

W8ND, N8CHS and K8MCN will team up as W8ND/VE1 on Big Tancook Island, NA-081, July 23-26. Their activity from Nova Scotia will be in the IOTA contest. QSL via K8MCN direct or bureau.

OZ8MW/p will be OZ2TF, OZ7KDJ and OZ9V from Anholt Island, EU-088, having their summer radio fun July 22-27. Look for them on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 CW and SSB including the IOTA Contest. QSL via OZ8MW



SX8R in Greece will be operator HA0NAR, Laci, from Thasos Island, EU-174. Look for Laci July 22-31, CW and SSB on 80-10, including the IOTA Contest of course.

As the summer usually brings out many portable style operations, here is also some information about other IOTA activations taking place outside of the IOTA contest.

JO3EVM will be vacationing on Ishigaki-jima Island, in the Yaeyama Islands, AS-024, July 27-30. He will operate holiday style with 50 watts to a dipole for 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6M, mostly SSB with some PSK31.

MS0WRC will transmit from EU-010, Crannag Cottage on the northeast coast of Isle of Barra, outer Hebrides. The Workington and District Amateur Radio Club operators plan to be there September 26-October 3. The operators are G0MTD, M1PAF, M0WCR and M3XUH. They plan to concentrate on 80, 40, 20 and 17 SSB, plus VHF and UHF FM. They also may operate mobile or portable from other sites on the island. QSL to G0MTD direct or via the bureau to MS0WRC or G0MTD. <http://www.g0mtd.co.uk>.

DL7JAN, Jan, and DL2IX, Egon, will be operating from Faial Island (EU-175), Azores from August 21-31. Activity by CT8/DL7JAN and CT8/DL2IX will be on 3.5 through 50 MHz on CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via their homecalls either through the bureau or direct.

A group of Amateur Radio operators from the Manche area of France will be heading to Saint Nicolas Island in the Glenans Archipelago (EU-094) between September 11th and 18th. Team members include F8PDR, F9ZG, F5NKX, F6CMC, F6ENO, F5RJM and F6ACH. Activity will be on CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL via F5RJM.

SV1CEI/8, Nick, travels to Kea Island, EU-067, between now and August 25. He will be "holiday style" on 40-10 SSB and CW, including activity from some lighthouses

F/OT2A is the call for "The Rockall 2009 Group," as they operate from EU-105, Ile de Batz, Finistere North. They will be multi-op low power in the IOTA event, with ON3DX, ON4AHF, ON4ATW, ON4HIL, ON4IA, ON6CC, ON6LEO, ON6NL, ON6ZU and ON7YT on hand. This is the same team that had attempted a landing on Rockall (EU-189) earlier this year. The skipper of the "Elinca" did not allow a landing on Rockall due to treacherous sea conditions. QSL via OT2A.

#### ***Austral Islands.***

SP9PT, Wojciech, reports that a group of Polish radio amateurs, SP3CYY, SP9PT and SP9-31029, along with FO5QB will be on from Tubuai in the Austral Islands, OC-152, September 29-October 12, and on Nuku Hiva in the Marquesas October 16-22. They will concentrate on lower bands and working Europe. Other parts of the world will not be ignored. They plan on being on CW SSB, RTTY and maybe PSK31 on all the higher bands too, if propagation makes it worthwhile. The participants are paying all the costs and no sponsors are being accepted, so "We are going there for our own pleasure with our own money."

The 160M skyhook will be a vertical with two elevated radials or 12 on the ground. 80m will be a square of four 18m high verticals each with one elevated radial or 12 on the ground.

Separation of the verticals will be 20.5m. On 40 there will be two phased verticals. For 30, the same as 40 or a four-square. 20-10 will have a hex beam and a vertical. They hope to have a receiving beverage directed toward Europe. Rigs will be a pair of K2s and an IC7000, three 600W amplifiers, and logging will be on three laptop computers. Look for them on 1827 and 1842, 3505 and 3795, 7005, 7075 and 7040, 10105 and 10143, 14025, 14190 and 14080, 18075, 18145 and 18103, 21025, 21295 and 21080, 24895, 24940 and 24923, and 28025, 28490 and 28080. QSL via SP9PT, Wojciech Klosok, P.O. Box 131, 44-200 Rybnik, Poland. <http://fo2009sp.pl/>.

#### ***Easter Island.***

SQ8X, Stan, and SV2KBS, Vicky, have announced their plans to operate from Easter Island. The two plan to be QRV as CEOY/homecall from October 31st to November 15th. Plans are to have two stations. Complete details are expected to be announced on a Website in the near future. They are looking for additional one or two operators to join them.

#### ***Tuvalu, Figi & Kiribati.***

The dates for PG5M's Pacific DXpedition are September 6-27, when he will get on from three different DXCC entities. First, September 6-7, Fiji, OC-016; Then Tuvalu, OC-015, September 8-14. Again, Fiji September 15-16; Next, September 17-23 on Kiribati, Tarawa, OC-017. Finally, back to Fiji September 24-27. The requested callsigns for the three QTHs are T2G, T30G and 3D2G. Gerben describes this as an "ultra light solo DXpedition," and will be CW only. QSL bureau or direct via his home call, PG5M. For direct, enclose at least 2 USD for return postage.

#### ***Austral Islands.***

G3BJ, Don, and G4JKS, Hilary, will be on vacation in the South Pacific in September 2009. They will be active as FO/G3BJ from the Austral Islands (Rurutu and Tubuai) from September 4th to 16th, and as ZK2BJ from Niue from September 18th to 25th. Operation will be mainly on CW on 3.5 through 28 MHz, but not on 17 and 12 meters. This is a vacation activity, and operation is likely to be mainly when the bands are open to Europe. Equipment is limited to 100 watts (K3) and a Butternut HF6, but the locations are at the sea edge.

#### ***Conway Reef.***

Twenty years after the first activation of Conway Reef, 3D2CR, another expedition to Conway is planned, for October 3-11. Seven operators, including DK9KX (ex-3D2CR), will be on 160-6M SSB, CW and RTTY. There will be no EME or digital modes on 6M this time.

#### ***Nauru Island.***

There are new dates for the C21TI Nauru Island "2009 Pacific Adventure," and these are said to be definite. After several postponements, EA4ATI, Dani, says August 17-23 are firm. He will be on 160-6M. <http://c21ti.madrone.net/>. You can also get info on QRZ.com, looking up

#### ***Niue Island Update.***

ZL1CT, Chris, reports that his recent ZK2V DXpedition made 15,817 QSOs, including 1,279 QSOs on RTTY, despite flat band conditions. Many stations enjoyed chasing Chris around the bands and modes to improve their position on the "ZK2V leaderboard." N8CC, Jeff, was the overall leader with 16 band-slots out of a possible 20. Chris has organized a different QTH

*(Continued on page 10)*

(Continued from page 8)

for his next visit to Niue. If you missed ZK2V, there are two DXpeditions to Niue scheduled for September and October this year. QSL via N3SL. Via the Bureau to N3SL is also okay. All ZK2V QSOs have been uploaded to LoTW, resulting in more than 2,000 QSO matches. Anyone lucky enough to have nabbed this rare one should already have their LoTW confirmation.

Looks like next Autumn/Winter will certainly keep DXers occupied following the announcements these planned DXpeditions. Heres hoping that many EI's will be able to catch some of the following.

#### **Benin.**

A Dutch team is planning a DXpedition to Benin in October. TY2MS will be QRV from October 10<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. This looks like the same team that put on 5L2MS as the group is again working with the DAGOE foundation and Mercy Ships. The team plans to arrive on October 7th and begin on the air activity on October 10th through October 27th, including the CQ WW SSB DX Contest. They expect to depart on October 30th. They will have beams for the high bands and verticals for 160-30 meters. They have a Web page at [www.benin2009.com](http://www.benin2009.com). No callsign was mention, however the QSLs will be handled by PA3AWW

#### **Sable Island.**

We have an update from the three-man team heading to Sable Island this October. Team member N0TG says all is on target, with pre-planning and preparation continuing. A challenge is to stay under the weight allowance. The charter aircraft limits the group to 1400 pounds total, which includes the three team members themselves, personal baggage and radio gear including antennas and computers, plus food. N0TG says it looks like the low bands will be very productive at this point in this solar cycle. He is pleased and excited to have a Battle Creek Special 160M antenna to take along, with a lot of interest in Europe and elsewhere in working CY0 on 160. He says they are not experienced RTTY operators but have equipped their stations with the needed interfaces and software and are trying to learn how to do it before the expedition. They've been making contacts and feel all set up and ready. NCDXF in particular has encouraged RTTY operation. Worldwide traffic on their web site continues to increase. [www.CY0dxpedition.com](http://www.CY0dxpedition.com).

#### **Lesotho.**

K5LBU, Frosty, is leading a group to Lesotho, which will begin operating on July 29th. The African DX Safari ([www.africandxsafari.com](http://www.africandxsafari.com)) in Johannesburg, South Africa will be supplying the equipment as they did in Swaziland for the AF-R175 EI DXpedition to Swaziland. K5LBU/7P8CF, Frosty, will be leading the team, which includes: HA5AO/7P8AO, Pista; DJ0YI/7P8YI, Ben; W0MM/7P8MM, Laurent; and 9M6XOR/7P8OK, John.

Activity is expected through August 13th. They will have two stations QRV 24/7, and possibly a third station on PSK and RTTY. Look for them on all bands, with an emphasis on 160 and 80 meters as they use a 70 foot high vertical. On 40 meters they will have a 4 square dipole. They will also have two towers on trailers using a Tennadayne T8 LogP up about 55 feet. A sloper will be used on 30 meters. There is also a possibility of 6 meters, using an M2 6 meter beam. QSL cards should go via the operator's home call, except for 9M6XRO operating as 7P8OK which should go to M0URX. Unfortunately members of the 4M5DX Group will not be able to join up with the 7P8

team.

#### **Swaziland.**

Speaking of Swaziland, GI4FUM, David, reports the following callsigns will be used during the multi-national DXpedition this time from July 30th to August 11th:

3DA0DJ & 3DA0SS (Swazi Scouts for scout site) by GI4FUM, David 3DA0TB by G4LDL, Tony 3DA0VA by M0VAA, Gerry 3DA0MH by GM3TAL, Malcolm 3DA0MM by NC4MM, Mike 3DA0EL by UT5EL, Yuri

Remember Vlad, UA4WHX?? For those that are still waiting for their QSLs to arrive from Vlad's last African junket might be interested in the following. UA4WHX, Vladimir, tells The Daily DX he and his QSL team are still mailing out direct QSLs at a rate of about 500-700 per week. Many will recall that Vladimir is the Russian Travel Agent who has been on three different junkets (see [www.dailydx.com/UA4WHX.pdf](http://www.dailydx.com/UA4WHX.pdf)). He is the one who does all of his logging and QSLing by hand and not by computer. Vladimir tells your editor he thinks all the direct QSL cards will be answered by sometime next year. He says all U.S. direct requests have been answered and if anyone from the States is still waiting they should contact him immediately at [vladimir.m.bykov@gmail.com](mailto:vladimir.m.bykov@gmail.com). Those outside the US can email him for a status report. When asked about future DXpeditions Vladimir tells The Daily DX that he has no plans until all of the QSLing is up-to-date.

The November 2009 XR0ZN DXpedition to Juan Fernandez Island has been pushed back to next year. It is now expected to take place somewhere in the March/April 2010 time frame. Details were found at [www.la6fja.eu/dx/XR0ZN/](http://www.la6fja.eu/dx/XR0ZN/).

So Folks, there we have it, all the latest reports and revolutions of future happenings. Some other items of interest in the pipeline although not released nor confirmed are: Tromelin, is still in the planning stages by a French team that are still battling it out with the relevant licensing authorities. The French team intend to have up to 6 stations QRV 24/7 for a period of up to 3 weeks. However, permission has not been granted as of yet as the officials will presently only allow up to 10 people on the island at any one time. In order to have 6 stations QRV simultaneously, they hope to have a 24 man team to meet the demand for this rare one.

After personally speaking with the team leader, he revealed that all is hopeful for 2010 or 2011 at the latest. Yemen, is also rumored to be in the early planning stages by a German team. We can only dream and keep hoping that there may be some light at the end of the tunnel after all.

As much as I would like to, I don't usually comment on any activities above the 10m band.

I feel that anything higher is not classed as HF and a lot more expertise is required to justify a writing of same.

All I can say though is, 6m, wow, what a band. This is my first entire season on 6 and I can clearly see exactly why it is called the Magic Band. Openings can often last only for seconds, not minutes or hours. If you have not tried 6m, give it a shot, you will enjoy it. Also, there are ample 6m focused DXpeditions that are not covered usually in the HF section. It's surely in a league of it's own. 6m also counts for the DXCC Challenge 6m activity will be covered in the new VHF Column by Trevor EI2GLB

Thanks to Bernie, W3UR of the Daily DX for the use of his bulletins.

Vy 73 for now and apologies for not including any readers reports this time. Until next issue, Best DX.



## Excerpt from the HX files

### A Look at ATV with Pat Fitzpatrick EI2HX - Excerpt 005

Hello and welcome to x tract 005 from my files .

This file is about some of the test equipment I have for the testing and the monitoring my transmit frequencies and wattage output. for all bands not just the micro wave bands.

Do not be afraid to ask your fellow "RADIO AMATEUR" operator what kind of test equipment to buy , as you could go mad ( and broke ) all to easy if you do not get some good advice as to what to buy and were to get it .

Some test gear can be found in certain factories and colleges/schools, as some factories often have their own electronic laboratories with some nice test gear. And as they upgrade their equipment from time to time you could do worse than to get in contact with their test labs, as well as the ones in your school/colleges. You never know, as the Bird watt meter I bought came from a College who's electronics teacher was a "RADIO AMATEUR" and he had a stall at a rally selling all sorts of test equipment .

Firstly test equipment does not have to cost a fortune.

I was guided by Michael EI5GG and the late Dermot EI2AK, who both told me that I did not have to spend big money to get some good ATV test equipment and that the older analogue equipment would do the job every bit as good as a newer digital pieces (for my needs). The newer digital test gear may be smaller than the analogue but there is something in looking at a swing meter compared to some digital display. Don't get me wrong, I would love to buy the newer gear but I will wait until I see how much I use each piece to see about going for digital test equipment.

All of the pieces of test equipment I bought were at radio rallies over the last few years. I have yet to buy any over the net. There's nothing wrong with buying over the net, I just like to have a look and a demo before I buy and most sellers like to give a demo to show that their equipment works and is in good order .

On the right is my first piece of test gear. It is a Bird Watt Meter (€100.00) and some power inserts (slugs) for 1.2 GHz, 2 @ €50. each approximately second hand. They do vary by frequency and power levels .

The wattmeter is not just for the GHz band, you can get the slugs for any frequency and power, (see photo 3). So if you favour the super high frequencies (SHF) and/or the lower frequencies (LF), the Bird Wattmeter is a fantastic all rounder and a good investment for your shack.

A power meter was next, (pictured on right)

Again the gear is sold without the power heads to connect to your equipment.

The power heads and adaptors range from €30 to €300.+++ . also in photo)



I also purchased some attenuators for the power meters. These would safeguard the front end of the meters and increase their range .

Photo 4 shows some other test gear I have. Some of the test equipment is used weekly but other pieces are used once in a while only to line up some equipment to make sure the frequency and power output is spot on.



Photo 3

Books are another good investment.

Some of the ones I have for ATV are in a foreign language (some of the English language ones I read were Greek to me until I read them a few times and talked to others about them) but measurements are measurements and you should have no trouble following the photos and diagrams to give you some good ideas.

A lot of the books are still available new but some are out of print a while, do not be afraid to ask your fellow "RADIO AMATEUR" who goes to the UK or European rallies to keep an eye out for you on their travels.

Some books I find useful are:

Microwave handbook's volume 1-2-3;

UK Microwave Group proceedings;

Southeastern VHF society conference (ARRL );

Praxis der mikrowellen

(UKW Berichte) and Alles uber ATV (funk ) to name but a few.

Some of the books are a few years old but the info they contain is still valid .

That's it for this issue of Echo Ireland, as we head into some good weather (hi hi ) I hope to some/p work , details in the next issue of Echo Ireland.

Thanks again to the photo studio of Thos EI2JD for producing the pictures for me yet again .

Best 73 and may your signals be 5 and 9.

de Pat, EI2HX.

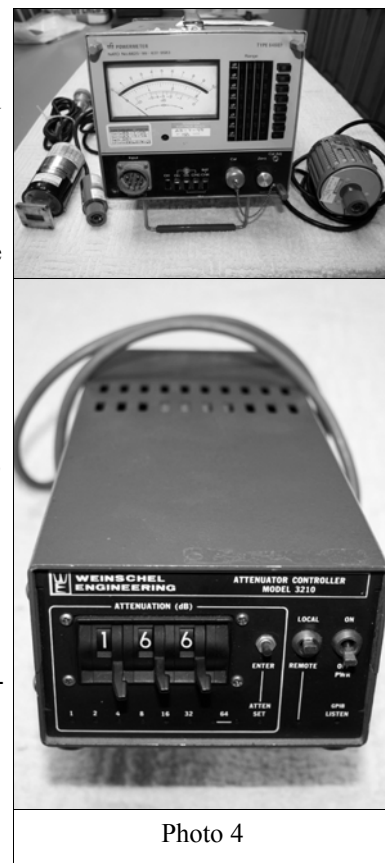


Photo 4



# VHF Roundup with Trevor Dunne EI2GLB

Hi all and welcome to the new VHF column.

Firstly let me introduce myself. My name is Trevor Dunne and I live just outside Kildare town with Jenny my very understanding YL. I am 29 years old and have been licensed since early 2004 with the call EI2GLB. I was a SWL for 10 years before I sat the theory examination.

Since licensed I have not had the space or time to do as much as I would have liked but since moving to a new QTH late last summer I now have more space but time is still limited.

What I hope to cover each issue are reports from EI's active on 6m, 4m, 2m and 70cms be it DX or interesting local activations. Also hope to have some simple projects to help get people active on some of the bands or modes that you might have not tried before.

My main interest in 6m DX'ing and with the new Sporadic E season approaching I hope to have loads of activity to report on. I also hope to be active on 4m and 2m as the season progresses.

4m is a new band to me and with the general release of the band to all EI's I hope there are more EI's getting new antennas ready for the new season. 4 meters is starting to become a popular band as more countries get access to it. There is a list of the countries that have access to and the various allocations the have on the 70mhz.org website.

Here is EI we have quite a wide allocation from 70.125- 70.450 at 17dbw (50watts.) 70.200 is the main calling frequency. The main stumbling block to access to this band is a suitable transceiver. There are some good articles on the 70 MHz website that will explain the options available for someone looking to get on the band.

Here is a short report from Trevor Brooke G3WBQ who came over to EI in early February to activate IO65 on 4m, IO65 seems to be a fairly rare square as ON5GS activated it on 2m MS earlier in the year.

(From Trevor G3WBQ)

*During the 1970s when I was active on four metres from Surrey it was always a struggle to work stations anywhere in the northern part of Ireland. GI3VPK/p notably activated Tyrone and Fermanagh regularly but S4 would generally be about his best signal and I always wondered whether that was necessarily so. Finally, the chance came to experience it all from the other end.*

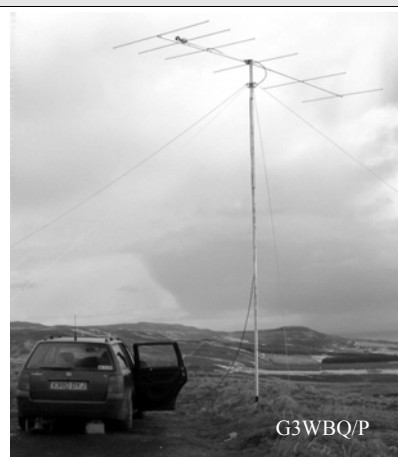
*The idea was to use a site 1000 feet above sea level near Malin Head in the far North West of the Republic. Setting up was quite pleasant. Though cold and pretty windy it was not actually raining. Hammering in the ground stakes, assembling the 6 element Yagi and running out the generator at the end of a 100 metre cable all went smoothly.*

*With the pole up, the first shock was quite how dreadful troposphere conditions were on the day for operating, Sunday.*

*With the 6 element pointing at it, the Buxton beacon at S5 seemed weaker than during a quick trial on the Saturday using just the dipole held by hand and also grossly mismatched, with its 4:1 balun suiting being a dipole at the Yagi's feedpoint, rather than suiting 75 Ohms on its own and. The dismal S4 strength of GB3ANG was equally discouraging.*

*The first CQ call though produced an encouraging minor pile up, a pile up on 4 metres being 3 stations. So, the big question how was the path all the way back to Surrey?*

*Well, nuvisitors have gone and low noise FET front ends come in, thin 75 Ohm TV coax has been superseded by RG213, Yagi designs have evolved from 1960 RSGB cutting tables to computer optimised DK7ZB with efficient baluns, yet well equipped station G3TCU was... S4. Another Surrey station was detectable but not readable. Remarkable!*



## Final 2008 Table

Callsign	50 MHz	70 MHz	144 MHz	432 MHz	1296 MHz	10 GHz	Totals
EI2IP	213	43	84	21	0	0	361
EI3IO	186	56	9	0	0	0	251
EI4GHB	126	4	65	6	4	0	205
EI9FBB	192	0	0	0	0	0	192
EI3GYB	146	10	9	3	0	0	168
EI7IX	90	67	0	0	0	0	157
EI2JD	113	1	13	1	0	0	128
EI2GLB	98	0	2	0	0	0	100
EI8IQ	1	0	69	7	0	0	77
EI2II	52	0	0	0	0	0	52
EI7IQ	30	0	7	0	0	0	37
EI9FVB	30	0	0	0	0	0	30
EI3IX	13	1	5	2	2	0	23

Updates for 2009 to [ei2glb@hotmail.com](mailto:ei2glb@hotmail.com)

*Operation started at 1040 and continued till stripping down during a brief dry spell at 1430. All too brief, as it turned out, when the deluge restarted and the wind chill handling icy metalwork left my hands numbed with the cold before everything was dismantled and slung into the car.*

*Huge thanks to those who came on to attempt contacts.*

*Trevor G3WBQ*

*Trevor made 20 contacts on 4m - not bad going considering the flat conditions.*

*For those of you unaware the IRTS keep a square table running on the website to keep track of all the different squares that active EI's have worked on all the V/UHF bands.*



I aim to try to update this as regular as possible so I would appreciate people sending me their totals at least every 2 months. As most people are using computer logging nowadays this info is simple to come by and a quick email is all that is needed.

Here is a list of some popular websites that anyone interested in working vhf dx should keep an eye on.

First is the ON4KST chat portal this is a great site to gauge activity and arrange skeds or find out info about any aspect of V/UHF communications.

<http://www.on4kst.info>

Next is the UKSMG the UK six meter Group who are helping to promote the magic band all over the world, this site has a host of info for the newcomer and old hand and is well worth adding to your bookmarks.

<http://www.uksmg.org>

Next is the 4 meter website which like the 6m site above is a one stop shop for all you need to know about 4 meters.

<http://www.70mhz.org/>

And finally for those that are new the VHF DXing the number one question you will be asked is what your locator is.

The Maidenhead Locator System is used to divide the world up into *grid squares*, identified by a four-character or six-character *grid square locator*. On this link you can find your QTH on Google maps and it tells you the locator.

<http://www.g8bcg.org.uk/find-your-locator-map.html>

I hope for the next edition I will have some reports from active EI's on the VHF bands.

## 6 Metres

From my own log there has been quite a bit of activity since the start of May with Sporadic E openings most days into different parts of Europe with typical distances of between 1500-2500 kms being worked and a few openings west towards the Azores. My Best contact to date has been a Moon bounce contact with Lance W7GJ on 6m using JT6A which I am quite proud of considering my simple setup.

Best normal QSO was with 8R1DB in Guyana which is just short of 7000kms. I worked them with 25w and the antenna at only 30ft.

Other EI's to make there log in no order are EI3IO, EI2JD, EI9FBB, EI7BMB, EI7IX, EI8GI, EI5GM, EI9GVB, EI4GXB and EI2CN.

More info about the dxpedition is available on <http://www.6meterbeaconproject.org/8R2009.html>.

6m was slow to pick up this Season but has really come to life I have worked 71 DXCC and 200 Squares so far and its only July.

There have been some openings south toward Africa as well with some EI's working TZ (Mali), TN (Congo) and 6W (Senegal). So the Magic band is really living up to its name this year.

## 4 Metres

There has been some good opening on 4m to CT (Portugal) and towards Central Europe with Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, and Luxembourg being worked here. In May there was a new DXCC allowed access to 4m this was OM (Slovakia). The first reported EI Qso was with Dave EI3IO on the 20<sup>th</sup> June.

Also as I write this EA (Spain) have been allowed back onto the band.

## 2 Metres

There has been a few limited Sporadic E opening on 2m so far. With reports of CN (Morocco) CT (Portugal) EA (Spain) HA (Hungary) and a few others as well. I have not make any 2m Sporadic E QSO's this year but have done 2 EME QSO's with W5UN and KB8RQ using JT65b. which considering my limited setup I am quite happy with.

That's all I have for this issue thanks for reading, I hope someone found the info above of some use and it will encourage you to get active on at lease one of the vhf bands as nearly every new radio has 6 meters built into it you have no excuse to try this band.

I would appreciate any activity reports on any mode or band between 6m and 70cms.

I look forward to working many new stations on the VHF bands, as I have found it can be difficult to find a station to test antennas with on the bands so if anyone needs a test feel free to drop me a email and I will be glad to help you out, I can work almost all of Ireland from my QTH on 6-4-2m.

Trevor EI2GLB

[ei2glb@hotmail.com](mailto:ei2glb@hotmail.com)

## Ballooning and Amateur Radio Club

The B.A.R.C. (Ballooning and Amateur Radio Club) of Ireland again had a stand at the annual Hamtronic show in Friedrichshafen Germany this year.

The equipment for the stand was transported by Aidan EI5HW, Gerry EI9DZ, Sean EI7CV, George EI7EC, Chris EI7AAB and Dave EI7GEB who maintained a constant presence there throughout the three days of the show.

Valuable assistance was given by Kim G7AIE and Jacqui 2E0FQV both members of the Mid-Sussex A.R.S.

An innovation this year was the flying of a helium-filled balloon with basket simulating a hot-air balloon over the stand which created a landmark within the exhibition hall visible from all sides.

A valuable contribution in the shape of Irish tourist literature was made by the members of I.R.T.S. who were present at their stand nearby. There was keen demand for this all the time.

Among the many hundreds of signatories in the book were Amateurs from all over Europe, U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Japan.

On Sunday June 28th, a special flight of the Zeppelin was made over Friedrichshafen from which a 2-meter station was operated by Franz Schwartz DK5JI who made 82 contacts over a period of 18 minutes with mostly German ops but the number included Aidan, Gerry, Sean, Dave and Kim who had been invited to take part in the operation. A further highlight of the weekend was experienced by Aidan EI5HW and Sean EI7CV who made a flight in the Zeppelin.

All those concerned agreed that the operation was a great success, and are hoping that it can be repeated next year.



MI0JBT, EI2JD & EI7IG



## AGM 2009 Athlone

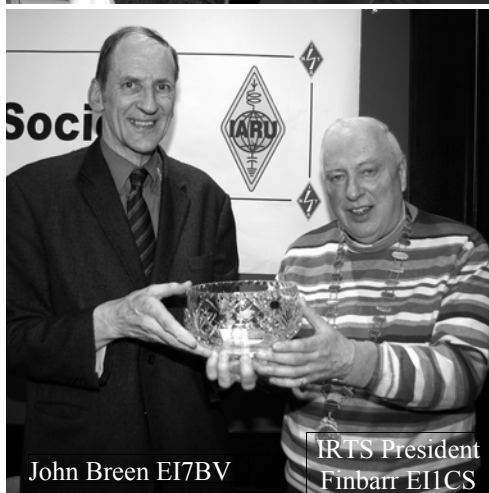


EI2EO

EI4AL



Shannon Basin Club Members



John Breen EI7BV

IRTS President  
Finbarr EI1CS



EI5GPB

EI6AX



EI7FO

EI8JB



IRTS President  
Finbarr EI1CS

RSGB President  
Colin G3PSM



Members at the AGM



Joe EI7GW



# Awards presented at the 2009 AGM

## **IRTS DX Trophy**

Leading IRTS Member in the single operator sections  
of the annual RSGB IOTA contest

**Pat O'Connor EI9HX**

## **Hal Hodgens Trophy**

Top scoring IRTS Member in the 12 hour CW  
section of the RSGB IOTA contest

**Peter Morrison, EI9ES**

## **IRTS IOTA Trophy**

Leading island (EJ) DX-pedition station in the annual  
RSGB IOTA contest

**EJ0GI - South Dublin Radio Club**

## **Pete Daly Memorial Cup**

Winning station in the open section of the IRTS CW Field Day  
(not contested)

## **Paddy Smyth Memorial Cup**

Leading station in the restricted section of the IRTS CW  
Field Day

**EI2SDR/P - South Dublin Radio Club**

## **Paddy Daly Microphone**

Winning station in the open section of the IRTS SSB Field Day

**EI7T/P Tipperary Amateur Radio Group**

## **IRTS HF Shield**

Leading station in the restricted section of the  
IRTS SSB Field Day

**EI3Z/P - Shannon Basin Radio Club**

## **Thomond Trophy**

Winning station in the open section of the  
IRTS VHF/UHF Field Day

**EI9E/P**

## **Shandon Trophy**

Top station in the restricted section of the  
IRTS VHF/UHF Field Day

**EI7T/P Tipperary Amateur Radio Group**

## **Tom Donnellan EI9BG Cup**

Top IRTS Member in the CW single op section of the  
CQWW DX contest

**Barry Merrill /EI/W5GN**

## **Arup Cup**

Exceptional service to the Society or to Amateur Radio.

**Richard Hendy MI3CQR**

## **Michael Collins Memorial Trophy**

Exceptional service to the Society or to Amateur Radio

**Francis Lenane EI5GOB**

## **Pat Conway Perpetual Memorial Trophy**

Exceptional service to the Society or to Amateur Radio

**Dundalk Amateur Radio Society**

## **Sheila Piper Cup**

Service to the IRTS News Service

**Michael McNamara EI2CL**

## **The President's Cup**

Presented at the discretion of the President of the Society

Awarded for exceptional and consistent service as  
QSL Manager and on the IRTS stand at Rallies

**Ger McNamara EI4GXB**

## **Folan Shield**

For home constructed equipment

**No entry**

## **Kevin Freeny Trophy**

For proficiency in equipment construction

**No entry**

## **Ian Morris Memorial Trophy**

SWL with the highest number of DXCC entities  
in the previous calendar year

**Brendan Nutley, EI 1429**

## **EI7IQ National 6 Metre Shield**

Leading EI/EJ IRTS member for 6 metre activity in the  
previous calendar year

**David Court, EI3IO**

## **EI7IQ National 4 Metre Shield**

Leading EI/EJ IRTS member for 4 metre activity in the  
previous calendar year

**David Court, EI3IO**

## **Slievenamon Shield**

Leading EI station operating FM on 70cms during July  
(no entry)

## **Cork Radio Club Annual Rally**

**Sunday September 13th**

**Montenotte Hotel, Cork City**

<http://www.themontenottehotel.com/>

**Contact Con EI7DJB**

**021-4270136**

## **The Marconi Radio Group Amateur Radio Rally Sunday 29th July Manor Hotel in Ballymoney**

More information from

**Melvyn MI0MSR at 07821129405**

**melvyn.irvine225@btinternet.com**

**Doors open at 12 noon.**

# Irish Radio Transmitters Society

## Treasurer's Report for the Year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 to the Annual General Meeting

### Shamrock Lodge Hotel, Athlone on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2009

I have pleasure in presenting the Accounts for the year 2008 for approval.

Despite cost pressures and some unforeseen expenses, the Society managed to achieve a surplus of €2,653 for the year. In the circumstances, this must be regarded as a very satisfactory outcome. Income from both subscriptions and examination fees was slightly down on the previous year while we experienced a substantial increase in the costs of producing and distributing Echo Ireland and an updated Call Book.

During the year, The Irish Amateur Radio Association for Blind and Disabled were forced by circumstances to cease operations. The surplus in the Associations accounts amounting to €1,203 was transferred to IRTS. The Association's equipment was also donated to IRTS and this will be disposed of in due course.

The total income from these donations will be used for a specific purpose to be decided by the committee in due course.

The Jubilee Account was used during the year to pay the outstanding costs associated with Jubilee Year and CQIR. A balance of €1,022 remains in this account.

The President and Honorary Vice President represented the Society at the IARU Region 1 Conference in Cavtat, Croatia during the year. Their travel and accommodation expenses were met from the IARU Conference Reserve. As the next conference is scheduled to take place in South Africa in 2012, the committee deemed it prudent to increase the annual transfer from the Income and Expenditure Account to the IARU Conference Reserve from €1,270 to €1,600.

The 2008 surplus has been added to the general reserve which now stands at a figure in excess of €45,000. My thanks go to the Society's newly appointed Auditors - Brendan de hÓra EI3GV and Brendan Lynch EI6GA, to the Officers and Committee of IRTS and especially to Joe Ryan EI7GY whose flawless record keeping is an inspiration.

*Signed:*  
*Sean Donelan EI4GK, Hon. Treasurer*

<b><u>Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008</u></b>				
	2007	2007	2008	2008
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Equipment		Nil		Nil
Prize Bonds		£89		€89
Shares – Irish Life and Permanent plc.		£754		€754
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Stock for Re-sale	€482		€1,520	
Cash on Deposit	€41,431		€5,191	
Cash at Bank	€9,663			
		€51,576		€49,270
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>€52,419</b>		<b>€50,113</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		Nil		Nil
<b><u>Surplus of Assets over Liabilities</u></b>		<b>€52,419</b>		<b>€50,113</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>				
General Reserve		€42,903		€45,556
IARU Conference Reserve		€5,013		€3,535
Jubilee Fund		€4,503		€1,022
		<b>€52,419</b>		<b>€50,113</b>
 Signed:				
<i>Seán Donelan EI4GK, Hon. Treasurer</i>				

# Irish Radio Transmitters Society

## Income and Expenditure Account for the Year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008

Income	2007	2008
Subscriptions	24,517	24,405
Donations	100	1,203
Advertising	987	1,820
Book Sales	(331)	(484)
CD Rom Sales	326	259
Investments & Bank Interest	1,049	1,326
Theory & Morse Test	2,733	1,518
Less Expenses	50	106
WEIC etc.	25	50
Licence refund	0	200
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>29,356</b>	<b>30,191</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Newsletter		
Printing	5,601	7,978
Postage/Delivery	3,872	9,473
Callbook	0	1,758
Postage & Telephone	999	1,252
QSL Service Outgoing	300	1,150
QSL Service Incoming	744	530
Stationery & Admin.	299	940
P.O. Box Rental	230	250
Insurance	653	663
Committee Meetings	1,079	1,130
AGM Costs	1,226	
Less Transfer form Jubilee fund	830	396
IARU Dues	935	931
Licence Fees	210	34
Conference Reserve	1,270	1,600
Bank Charges	436	415
Trophies etc.	120	202
Website Costs	420	192
Afri75 Dxpediton	405	0
Friedrichshafen Hamfest	375	936
CQIR Contest	497	3481
Less Transfer from Jubilee Fund	497	0
Past President Badges	439	0
IRTS 75 QSL Cards	199	0
5MHz Beacon	414	0
Donations	1,251	1,600
Purchase of display unit and boards	1,604	0
Miscellaneous Costs	242	100
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>22,493</b>	<b>27,538</b>
<b>Surplus for Year</b>	<b>6,863</b>	<b>2,653</b>

# Irish Radio Transmitters Society

## Notes on, and forming part of the Accounts for the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008

### 1. Income

Subscriptions and Income received during the year were credited to the Income and Expenditure Account. Subscriptions covering any period after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 were not treated as prepaid. No provision was made for Subscriptions in arrears.

### 2. General Reserve

Balance as at 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2008	€42,903
Add: Surplus for year 2008	€2,653
Balance as at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2008	€45,556

### 3 IARU Conference Reserve

Balance on 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2008	€5,013
Transfer from Income and Expenditure Account	€1,600
Sub Total	€6,613
Less Expenses 2008	€3,078
Balance on 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2008	€3,535

### 4 Jubilee Fund

Balance on January 1st 2008	€4,503
Less: CQIR expenditure	€2,981
Less: Donation to Swazi Scouts	€500
Balance on December 31st 2008	€1,022

### 5. Shares – Irish Life and Permanent plc

Shares in Irish Life and Permanent plc are shown in the Balance Sheet at the issue price of €754 (330 shares @ €2.29 per share). The Market Value of these shares on 23rd April 2009 was €610 (€1.85 per share)

### 6 Cash on Deposit

Balance on January 1st 2008	€41,431
Balance on December 31st 2008	€42,559

### 7 Equipment

All equipment in the ownership of the Society has been fully depreciated.

## Auditors Report

*We, the undersigned, acting as Honorary Auditors of the Irish Radio Transmitters Society, have compared the foregoing Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and Notes thereon, with the books and vouchers of the Society and certify that they are correct and in accordance with them.*

*Signed:*

*Brendan M. de hÓra EO3GV  
Brendan Lynch EI6GA  
March 26th 2009*



# Committee Report to the Annual General Meeting of the Irish Radio Transmitters Society Shamrock Lodge Country House Hotel, Athlone. 26th April 2009

## Committee Meetings

Seven Committee Meetings were held during the year. All meetings were held in Portlaoise on Saturday mornings at 1100 and were well attended.

## Membership

90 members joined (or re-joined) the Society during 2008 and, by the year-end, membership numbers totalled 984, the highest for many years. While most of our members live in EI, it is worth noting that almost 10% live outside EI. We continue to put a lot of effort into retaining existing members and recruiting new members, and in this respect we commend the team manning the IRTS stand at rallies: they continue to be a key part of our membership retention and recruitment efforts.

## ComReg

Regular contact is maintained with ComReg by the Society. Meetings are held as necessary to discuss matters concerning amateur radio. Telephone, e-mail and written contacts are used to resolve issues that may arise from time to time. The following are the main issues which arose with ComReg during the year.

### Outcome of Meeting of July 2007

Arising from this meeting with ComReg which was reported on in last year's Annual Report, the 70 MHz band was eventually made generally available to experimenters on 17 July 2008 without the need for an individual application. With effect from the same date experimenters were free to apply for permission, on an individual basis, to operate on three 3 kHz channels centered on 5290, 5400 and 5405 kHz. The long delay in actually issuing the 5 MHz licences was raised at a meeting with ComReg on 15 September about the Theory Examination and licences started to be issued about a month later.

The question of obtaining some additional channels at 5 MHz has been raised with the appropriate military authorities and is under consideration at present. The channels concerned with the countries in which they are in use are 5300 kHz (Finland), 5329 kHz (Canada), 5322 and 5348 kHz (USA, Norway, Finland and Iceland).

On 17 July 2008, ComReg also published a document 08/58 which was an application form for the licensing of Automatic Stations (Repeaters/Beacons) as well as revised Radio Experimenter Guidelines – document 02/05R6. The Committee considered that there were some problems with these documents and a lengthy submission was made to ComReg on 14 August 2008 requesting a meeting on the issues it raised. Due to resource difficulties in ComReg a meeting did not eventually take place until 12 February 2009 and is covered below.

### Increased Power

In mid August 2008 a letter was sent to ComReg seeking a general increase in power to 1500 watts on the HF bands, 750 watts on 144 and 432 MHz and 300 watts on the other VHF/UHF bands. In correspondence relating to the repeater issue and the unsatisfactory delay in meeting the Society it was indi-

cated to us that the power issue would be discussed at a meeting to be arranged after Christmas 2008.

### Meeting of 12th February 2009

Although long delayed, the Committee would like to thank the ComReg officials concerned for a constructive approach to this meeting. The following matters were covered:

- **Lifetime Licence:** The necessary revisions to the relevant Regulations have been completed and should be implemented in the near future.  
After the implementation date, invoices will be issued for €30 as licences come up for renewal and Lifetime licences will be issued. All applicants for new licences after the implementation date of the revised Regulations, whether previously licensed or not, will pay the Lifetime licence fee of €100.  
Those with currently lapsed licences were given an opportunity up to 17 April to renew their licences at the standard €10 fee as well to retain their existing call sign.
- **5 MHz:** Existing permits will expire on the expiry date of the associated licence and an application is required for their continuance. Where no changes are being made a letter or e-mail requesting continuance will suffice but it must explicitly state that no changes are being made to the equipment, antenna, the nature of the experiments or in the location of the station.  
Where changes in any of these matters are being made a full application on ComReg form 02/07R2 must be made.
- **Additional Power:** No general increase in power levels is to be granted at present. It was agreed, however, that the Society would make an application for a general increase in power for the duration of a specified number of International Contests.  
A list of twenty-three such contests was submitted to ComReg on 5 March seeking a power level of 1.5 kW. A decision on this is awaited.
- **Representation:** ComReg accept that IRTS has a role in representing the views of experimenters and that due weight will be given to those views. In this context it was agreed that a formal meeting will be held at least once a year between ComReg and IRTS with other meetings being held if necessary. It was also agreed that IRTS review all existing published ComReg documentation relating to experimenters. This was done by a small working group and a document with a wide range of suggestions was submitted to ComReg on 24 March.
- **500 kHz:** The general position of ComReg is that it will consider the allocation of spectrum around 500 kHz on the basis of a common European position. However, in

*(Continued on page 19)*

(Continued from page 18)

the light of developments internationally on 500 kHz, ComReg agreed that a limited number of experimenters, both members and non members of IRTS, would be granted permissions to operate on 500 kHz under a licence to be issued to IRTS. A downloadable form for expressions of interest in a permit for 500 kHz is available on the IRTS website.

- **7 and 10 MHz;** The segment 7100 to 7200 kHz to be upgraded to Amateur Primary with effect from 29th March to give effect to a decision of WRC-03. It was also agreed that from the same date, the modes allowed on 10 MHz would be revised to permit modes with bandwidths of 500Hz or less to be used above 10140 kHz. Both of these matters have come into effect
- **Automatic Stations (Repeaters/Beacons):** Licences to be issued in the near future for repeaters on the basis of the call sign format and other details set out in ComReg document 08/58R of 6 October 2008. ComReg agreed to consider leaving the call signs of beacons as they are at present.

### 70 MHz Initiative

Following an initiative by IRTS in February 2008, based on a position paper by Dave Court EI3IO, ComReg raised with the CEPT Working Group on Frequency Management (WGFM) the question of the inclusion of allocations to the Amateur service at 70 MHz in the European Common Allocations table (ECA).

This initiative yielded results and the new ECA includes a new footnote which reads:

*“EU9 in a growing number of CEPT countries, parts of the band 70.0 – 70.5 MHz is also allocated to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis.”*

This footnote generated much interest in amateur circles in Europe and will assist Societies in CEPT countries which had been reluctant to grant allocations at 70 MHz as there was no mention of it previously in either the ITU Radio Regulations or the ECA.

### Spectrum Management Strategy

In March 2008, IRTS submitted a detailed response to the ComReg draft Strategy on Spectrum Management.

As a result, the final version of the Strategy published in July 2008 in ComReg document 08/50 added

- mention of the self-training and technical investigations aspects of experimental/amateur radio;
- the upgrading of the amateur allocation at 7100-7200 kHz from Secondary to Primary with effect from 29 March 2009 to implement a decision of WRC-03;
- the general release of the 70 MHz band; and the provision of access to channels in the 5 MHz region

### Dept. of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources

The report of a Working Group on Spectrum Policy was published on 12 September 2008.

The purpose of the report is to review the current system of spectrum management with the aim of developing a national spectrum strategy that will be sufficiently flexible to accom-

modate technological developments as well as supporting and promoting innovation, research and development.

It is worth noting that the report states:

*“Spectrum reserved for use by amateurs and for scientific research is vital in helping to ensure an ongoing interest in technology and in furthering our understanding of radio propagation and communications.”*

A lengthy response to this report was submitted to the Department by the Society on 22 November.

Following consideration of comments and inputs to the consultation on this report it is intended that a policy paper, setting out the principles for the future management of spectrum in Ireland will be published by the Minister for Communications Energy and Natural Resources.

### Morse Code

ComReg continues to require experimenters to pass a 5 wpm Morse test before issuing a CEPT Class 1 licence with a two letter suffix.

The Society provides Morse testing facilities at rallies when requested.

### International Amateur Radio Union

At international level, National Societies throughout the world work together for the overall good of Amateur Radio under the auspices of a representative democracy, the International Amateur Radio Union – IARU.

It is through the work of the IARU that radio amateurs are able to devise agreed objectives and a unified strategy to seek to achieve them in the run up to World Radio Conferences of the ITU.

This is how the improvements at 7 MHz, from which we are now benefiting, were achieved at WRC '03.

A small part of each member's annual subscription goes to help fund the work of the IARU. It behoves all who have the best interests of amateur radio at heart to join their National Society and contribute to and support the work of the IARU. Like any other Union it works for the good of its members – the radio amateurs of the world.

The three yearly General Conference of Region 1 IARU was held in Cavtat, Croatia from 16 to 21 November last.

There were fifty two National Societies represented at the conference by over 140 delegates.

The Society was represented by Fr. Finbarr Buckley EI1CS and Seán Nolan EI7CD. A full report on the Conference was carried in the December 2008 issue of Echo Ireland.

The Society needs to be represented at these conferences because, among other things, they are part of the self-regulatory process for which amateur radio is well known and respected.

Common strategies throughout the IARU are developed at these Conferences and at similar ones in Regions 2 and 3.

It was these common strategies promoted throughout the world by national IARU Societies as well as the work of IARU delegations at ITU Conferences that achieved the 10, 18 and 24 MHz bands at WARC-79, the expansion of the 7 MHz band in Regions 1 and 3 at WRC-03 and secured agreement at WRC-07 to place consideration of an allocation at 500 kHz on the agenda for WRC-11.

(Continued on page 20)

*(Continued from page 19)*

For many years now the Society had maintained a designated fund to allow the IRTS to be represented by two delegates at these three yearly Conferences and a small part of the annual subscription income of the society is lodged to this fund. It is estimated that the cost of sending two representative is about a Euro per member per year.

Following the result of a ballot of all IARU member societies Tim Ellam VE6SH was elected President of IARU for a five year term commencing on 9 May next. He had been Vice President of IARU since 2004. Ole Garpestad LA2RR was elected Vice President to succeed Tim Ellam. His five year term of office also commences on 9 May. Ole has been President of Region 1 IARU since 2002. At the Cavtat Conference Hans Blondeel Timmerman PB2T was elected President IARU Region 1 to succeed Ole LA2RR.

### **Theory Examination**

Under an agreement concluded with ComReg on 26 May 2005 the Society took over responsibility for setting, organising and correcting the examination for the Experimenter's Licence. This collaborative venture with ComReg has been very successful.

Since IRTS took over responsibility for the examination, eight examinations have been held.

A total of 155 candidates have sat these examinations and 96 (62%) have obtained a HAREC qualification which entitled them to apply for an experimenter licence.

Examinations will be held outside Dublin where it is appropriate in the light of the number and location of the candidates presenting for the examination.

The three year agreement concerning the theory examination expired in May 2008. Following discussions between ComReg and the Society a new agreement was concluded in mid September for a further three year period. This will ensure that examinations for the experimenter's licence will continue to be available on a regular basis for those wishing to obtain a licence.

The next examination will be held on June 30th with a repeat examination at end September/early October.

### **Emergency Communications**

The Amateur Radio Emergency Network has seen more progress over the past year.

At an operational level, seven public service events were supported, there were no call-outs. Members went on alert during a severe weather event and gathered weather observations which were communicated to Met Eireann.

AREN participated in two IARU International Simulated Emergency Tests, which are global emergency communications exercises.

In March 2008, AREN participated in an exercise with the South Tipperary Voluntary Emergency Services, this included Mountain Rescue, Civil Defence, Order of Malta, Red Cross and Search and Rescue Dog Association of Ireland.

AREN was represented at a SVESO Seminar, and AREN has representation on two of the eight Voluntary Emergency Services sub-committees (Cork/Kerry Region and South East Region)

Early in 2009 AREN was present in an observer capacity at a

Coast Guard exercise. Members assisted at the Maamturk Walk, and AREN was requested to assist SEMRA with communications at a walking "Marathon".

AREN was generously donated a box trailer late in 2008 by the East Cork Contest Group. Much work was done on this over the winter and work continues.

AREN would like to thank all experimenters who volunteered some of their valuable time in public service events during the past year.

### **EMC**

During the past 12 months a number of individual members have made contact with the EMC officer with regard to interference to HF and VHF reception. This would appear to be the primary EMC issue facing experimenters today.

In all cases advice was given on how to locate the source and some suggestions were made based on probable causes how the issues might be addressed.

One case involved ESB power-line noise and advice was given on how to locate the fault. Experience to date with the ESB concerning power line noise have been very favorable in that the faults that cause noise issues for radio users are also faults that the ESB are keen to address in it's maintenance programs. The key to a good outcome is to try to make an accurate determination of the precise location of the noise source affecting your reception before involving the ESB.

We appeal to the members to report back on how their EMC issues were resolved, we can all learn from the outcomes of others.

There may also be the need to involve the regulatory authorities under certain circumstances, particularly where the noise is emanating from non-CE marked equipment placed on sale within the EU or excessive noise levels are observed from CE marked equipment whilst it is being operated in accordance with it's intended purpose.

It is important to note that in most of these cases liability for resolving the issues rests with the manufacturer or the supplier of the device, not with the owner of the device.

Going forwards it is hoped to start to compile a database of the issues members report and the outcomes.

Broadcasting and Amateur radio are protected services and we are entitled under the EU EMC directive to protection from harmful interference.

### **Publications**

Echo Ireland was published six times in the past twelve months. Our thanks to all who contribute articles and news especially the regular columnists. We appeal to all members to consider submitting articles for publication.

Following a suggestion made at the 2008 annual general meeting, we started offering members electronic distribution of the newsletter as an alternative to distribution by ordinary mail. This has been a very successful move, and 125 members have now switched to electronic distribution.

These members have online access to the complete library of Echo Ireland issues from 2001 onwards.

### **PRO**

#### **Engineers Ireland ... Week of Wonder**

The Society's participation in Engineers Ireland's Week of

*(Continued on page 21)*



(Continued from page 20)

Wonder was a great success. Over 450 young people from ten to sixteen years took part in seventeen IRTS workshops in six locations around the country.

Workshops were held in Carlow Institute of Technology, Waterford Institute of Technology, Limerick Institute of Technology, Athlone Library, the Cork Lifetime Lab as well as Engineers Ireland's offices in Dublin. We had also planned to run a number of workshops in Mayo (thanks to Brendan EI6IZ) but unfortunately Engineers Ireland were unable to confirm participants.

Students were introduced to the science of radio and communications by means of a multimedia presentation. Simple circuits and components were identified and explained and the students went on to construct a breadboard audio oscillator which was used by the students to send Morse messages from kit to kit. The students were presented with their kits to bring back to their classroom.

There was a very positive response from both the students and the workshop presenters as well as from Engineers Ireland and the various hosting bodies. Engineers Ireland have already been in touch with the Society regarding the possibility of collaborating on future projects. We would also see possibilities of joint projects with the Cork Lifetime Lab.

Our thanks to all who gave of their time, particularly Seamus EI8BP who produced the Multimedia presentation and the kits and also to the Workshop co-ordinators, Athlone: Mick EI4AL, Carlow: Roland EI4GYB, Cork: Dave EI4BZ, Limerick: Ger EI4GXB, Waterford: John EI7IG, Dublin: Paul EI5DI.

#### **Friedrichshafen**

The Society again mounted a stand at the Friedrichshafen hamfest and it was a great success. Our thanks to all the EI's and GI's who manned the stand over the three days. Special thanks to Fáilte Ireland who delivered brochures in several languages for distribution on the stand.

#### **IRTS Shop**

The Society has an arrangement with the RSGB to provide an on-line book shop for IRTS members. All items are priced in Euros, with a 10% discount available for members.

There is a link from our website or you may go directly to [www.irtsshop.com](http://www.irtsshop.com)

IRTS will continue to have a presence at all rallies in the future but, once existing stocks are exhausted, sales will be confined to IRTS specific items such as Log-Books, Pin Badges, ties and maps etc. and to provide a contact point for membership applications and renewals.

Our thanks to Peter EI4HX, Pat EI2HX and Thos EI2JD who provided an IRTS presence at all rallies during the past year.

#### **QSL Service**

##### **Outgoing Bureau**

Tony Baldwin EI8JK our out-going QSL Manager reported that in the past year he had dispatched over 75 kilos of parcels to foreign QSL bureaux. We estimate this to be in excess of 26,650 QSL cards.

This year has seen a big increase in the amount of cards handled, reversing a downward trend in recent years.

2006	31,150
2007	19,600
2008	26,250

We again thank Tony for his trojan work and would ask members to follow the rules in the Handbook regarding the sorting of cards in order to assist Tony in his task.

##### **Incoming Bureau**

On the in-coming side, we also have an excellent network to ensure regular distribution of members' cards.

Mike EI2CL regularly collects many parcels of cards from abroad, together with other mail addressed to P.O. Box 462.

Following an initial sort by Mike, the cards are passed to Pat EI2HX who distributes the cards to the sub-managers.

Our thanks to Mike, Pat and all the in-coming sub-managers - John EI7FAB, Thos EI2JD, Jim EI3DP, Terry EI4GLB, Rory EI4DJB, Ger EI4GXB, Brian EI8IU and David EI9FFB.

Our sincere thanks to all those involved.

#### **Radio News**

The HF Radio News is running well at present. It is worth noting that 19th January 2009 was the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first transmission of the HF Radio News

The 1200 Sunday news on 80m is rotating between Ger EI4GXB in Clonlara, Co. Clare, Roland EI4GYB in Carlow and Seán EI7CD in Dublin.

We could probably do with two other newsreaders, one in the South and one in the West.

The 40 metre News at 1100 hrs has been changed in frequency to 7055 kHz to comply with the new 40 metre band plan adopted at Cavtat in November.

The revised band plan came into effect on 29 March to coincide with the upgrading to amateur primary of the band segment 7100 to 7200 kHz.

The News is also broadcast by clubs on VHF from various locations throughout the country mainly on Monday and Tuesday evenings. In the relatively recent past news transmissions on VHF have commenced in Mayo and Galway.

During the year Charlie Carolan EI8JB took over Editorship of the Radio News from Mark Wall EI7IS who had carried out this task for many years.

Our thanks to Mark and Charlie for their commitment to the Radio News and to the many newsreaders who give of their time to bring us the Radio News Service week in, week out.

#### **Awards**

The society is called on each year to validate a small number of applications by members for awards granted by other IARU Societies.

The Society's Worked All EI Counties Award (WEIC) is difficult to obtain and only one was issued during the past year.

We had expected more awards to be issued as it became easier due to the now annual 80 metre New Year Contest and the fact that it was decided two years ago that QSL cards would no longer be required.

The award is now issued on the basis of a log extract certified by an officer of a radio club or by two licensed radio experimenters/amateurs.

To mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Year a special Jubilee WEIC was in-

(Continued on page 22)

(Continued from page 21)

troduced. Only contacts made between 1 January 2007 and 1 January 2008 inclusive are valid for the award. Again a certified log extract is all that is required.

Three of these awards were issued during the year bringing to sixteen the number of Jubilee WEIC awards issued so far.

The Society's trophies which are awarded for contests as well as for services to the Society or to Amateur Radio will be presented in the course of the AGM.

### Contests

The Society directly organizes seven contests each year - CW, SSB and VHF Field Days, Spring and Autumn 2m Counties Contests and only recently the two 80m Counties Contests.

While the 2 metre and 80 metre contests are well supported, our Field Days could do with more participation.

Three stations entered the VHF/UHF Field Day, EI9E/P and EI7MRE/p in the Open Section and EI7T/P in the restricted section.

Three stations entered the Restricted Section of the CW Field Day, EI2SDR/p, EI3Z/p and EI3HB/p.

Five stations entered the SSB Field Day, EI7T/p in the Open Section and EI3Z/p, EI2SDR/p, EI5GPB/p and EI7MRE/p in the Restricted Section.

In recent years, a central location in Ballinasloe has been used for the HF field days where restricted (100 watt) stations can co-exist happily in relatively close proximity to one another. This has been reasonably successful and the Saturday night barbeque put on by the Shannon Basin Club is a big feature of the event.

**We urge clubs and groups to consider participation this year.**

Stations may still operate from other locations and it does not take much effort to get a field day station on the air.

Advice is available from the Contest Manager.

The Society awards trophies for the leading EI stations in some of the international

### International Amateur Radio Union Monitoring Service

Ger McNamara EI4GXB is the IARU Monitoring System co-ordinator for Ireland and he maintains regular contact with the Region 1 co-ordinators Uli DJ9KR & Wolf DK2OM. We are now, for the first time, mentioned on the IARU-MS R1 website (<http://www.iarums-r1.org/>) and Ger is in monthly contact with all the other Regional member society co-ordinators who share both reports & information. Comreg have also been informed of his appointment and he enjoys a good working relationship with them.



IRTS AGM 2009 Athlone

There are lots of resources available on the above website, which will help with reporting and news in general of the IARU-MS activities, and we urge all IRTS members to have a look around the site. There is also a link included on [www.irts.ie](http://www.irts.ie)

Echo Ireland now carries a regular column compiled by Ger to help keep members up to date on the latest developments and to generally encourage feedback from members.

Over the months, members have contacted him for help and information.

We have been contacted by my member societies in Europe regarding a major QRM problem in the DX window of 80m and through international co-operation, the IRTS have been instrumental in stopping this QRM and have been acknowledged by some of the biggest DX operators on 80m in helping.

### Web Site

The web site at [www.irts.ie](http://www.irts.ie) is an important link between the Society and its current membership, potential members and the outside world in general. Just over 50% of visitors to the site are from Ireland and about 25% are from the UK.

Topical information from a variety of sources is included in the site and updated regularly.

During the year, long serving web-master Joe Ryan EI7GY handed over the reins to Gerry Kavanagh EI8DRB.

Our thanks to Joe for his great work and we wish Gerry well in his endeavours.

### Members Input

Our society is run totally on a voluntary basis and depends totally on the goodwill of members to keep all our services going on a day to day basis.

The Committee expresses its thanks to all members for their efforts, especially to our P.O. Box Manager, QSL Managers, radio newsreaders and all who provide input to both the radio and printed news services. We look forward to their continuing support over the coming year.

Any member who wants to get involved at any level should contact any committee member.

## Galway VHF Group in the Practical Wireless 4 Metre Contest



Joe EI3IX

Joe, EI3IX and Steve, EI5DD operated the Galway VHF Group Callsign EI4ALE/P during the Practical Wireless 4 metre Contest on Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup>.

This contest is essentially a QRP contest where 10 watts maximum in any mode is permitted. This was the first of the Practical Wireless 4 metre Contests and it deserved plenty of support for its launch.

The choice of site was a little last minute but the decision was taken to operate from Wolftrap Mountain in the Slieve Blooms in locator square IO63EB. The equipment used on this occasion was a vintage Yaesu FT480R with an equally vintage Microwave Modules Transverter with 10 watts output.

The antenna was a 5 element Yagi in horizontal polarisation and also a half wave vertical to pull in the local FM stations. The station was assembled in record time and the antennas were tuned using an antenna analyser and placed on a 20 foot mast held up with a drive on plate/support.



Steve EI5DD

Our initial contact was with John, EI7FAB, located in Mayo, using his brand new Spectrum Communications transverter. Good reports were exchanged. The next QSO was with Declan, EI9HQ/P in Wexford, again a good signal report was exchanged. This was comforting as the gear had not been used for at least 15 years!

The contest kicked off at 12 noon and all the available EI stations were worked very quickly and then there was a long pause while weak and watery signals were picked out of the noise from the UK. Judging by the sound of the signals these were mainly backscatter signals and sometimes enhanced by aircraft flutter. The G Stations were not turning their beams west. This was proven by one who came up from a watery 4,4 to a colossal 5,9+++.

Every QSO was made with difficulty not helped by our choice of location. We could hear Declan in Wexford picking a few stations from the UK and his score was ahead of ours at this stage.

Every so often a station would come out of the noise and it was very definitely as a result of aircraft flutter in our case.

The best contact was from JO00EW located on the extreme south east of England. Not the strongest but there was a good 2 way exchange and the contact completed.

Conditions on 4 metres were not the best and there were no detectable sporadic E enhancements for the duration of the contest.

The contest ended at 6pm local time and our final score was a little embarrassing at a grand total of 12 stations worked but then it was a QRP contest. Despite the low numbers of stations worked it was good to blow the cobwebs off the gear and actually hear a few 4 metre stations active.

Based on our glorious score in this contest, we decided against the operation of the 2 metre QRP contest on Sunday – 3 watts maximum any mode on 2 metres.

EI5DD

## Outgoing QSL Bureau

Please mail your cards directly to the Outgoing Bureau Manager:

**Anthony Baldwin EI8JK,**  
**Rathlin, Kilcrohane, Co. Cork.**  
**ei8jk@amsat.org**

**SSB Field Day**  
**September**  
**5/6th**

# Dundalk Amateur Radio Society Celebrates 40 Years

Dundalk Amateur Radio Society celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a 48-hour all-band event from the QTH of Thos EI2JD at Clogherhead in Co. Louth.

Members of the club, old and new, had the pleasure of working from the beautiful seaside station on all bands from 160 metres up to and including 1.2 GHz.

Some experienced members were on hand to work the pile-ups which emerged to our surprise on all bands, but there were also some newer members and less experienced operators on hand to help out during the weekend.

The event began at midnight on Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup> and ran until a little after midnight on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>.

It was appropriate that the event was run on the weekend of the summer solstice, the longest days of the year, as the atmosphere was just fantastic down in Clogherhead.

Ordinary interested members of the public dropped in to the event as well, which was well publicised in the local press, including a video interview on the Dundalk Democrat website and of course the club's own website, [www.ei7dar.com](http://www.ei7dar.com), which is proving very popular.

The event helped to put EI7DAR on the global map. There were a total of 2,500 QSO's worked over the weekend, including a hefty amount of European traffic. There were some QSO's into the Middle East, North and South America also; with some VHF QSO's into the Caribbean.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of the weekend was the "live webcam" which was displaying live video and audio from the station over the 48 hours.

Each operator calling out EI7DAR mentioned the website and

the webcam and before long, there was a pile-up on the website also!

In fact, some of the stations worked reported that they were watching the operator live on the web. The website statistics showed a very healthy lift in traffic over the weekend.

On average we have over 100 hits per day but over the weekend had 1500+ on Saturday rising to 1800+ on the Sunday.

Some of those who attended the event came from as far afield as Northern Ireland, Mayo, Dublin and Skerries and the warm and welcoming atmosphere down at The Slip in Clogherhead made the whole weekend all the more enjoyable.

HF Station 1 consisted of the Tentec Orion II, OM Power Amp and a 3 Element SteppIR which covered 10, 12, 15, 17 and 20m with desktop PC running Wintest in DX expedition (HF + 5MHz).

HF Station 2 set up in the sitting room was the Yaesu FT1000MP and a 160 Carolina Windom at 17m which covered 40, 80 and 160 SSB activity, with a laptop running Wintest.

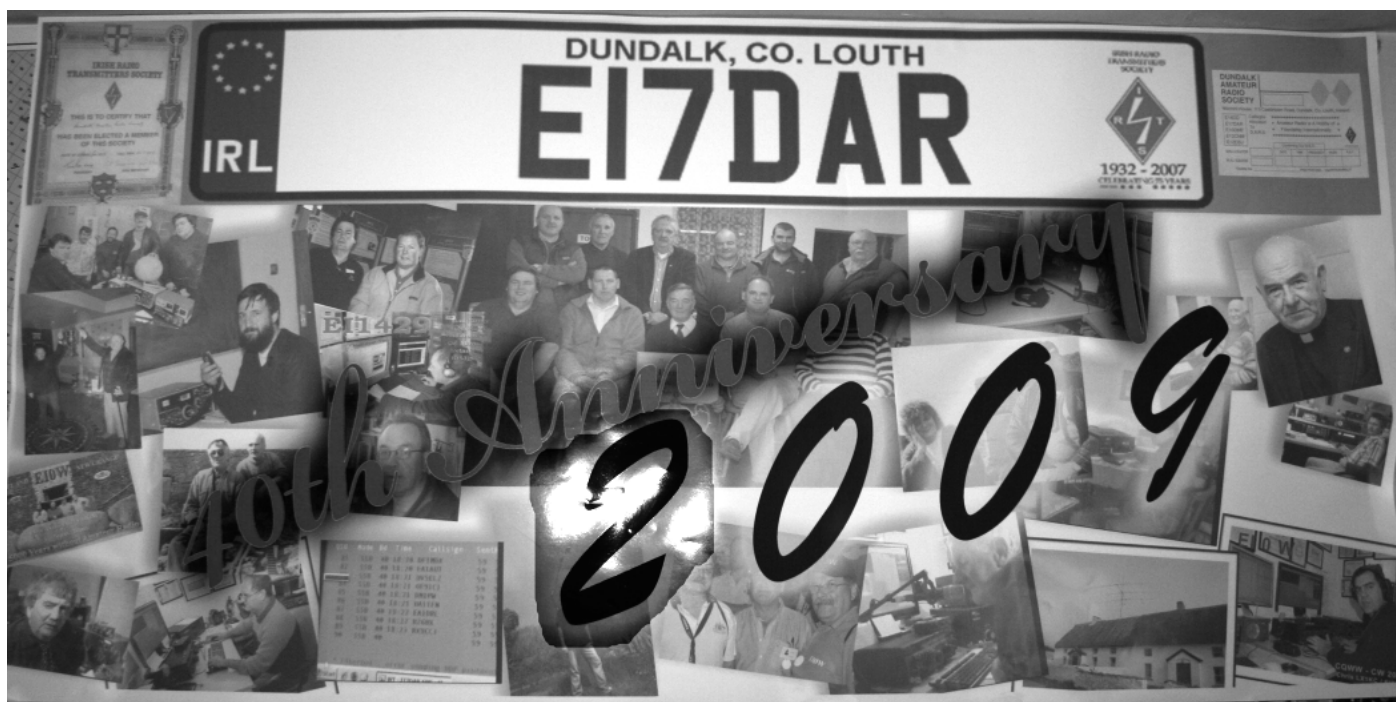
There were 4 VHF/UHF stations running also, the first being the 6m station which consisted of a Kenwood TS2000, Acom 1000 Amp and a 7 Element by M<sup>2</sup>. Contacts included most of Europe and a few into the Caribbean and South America. Logging here was a laptop running Wintest in DX expedition (VHF and above).

The second station was a Yaesu FT736R connected to a 10 Element on 2m and a 21 Element on 70cms using the same laptop as the 6m station.

The third station was another Kenwood TS2000 on 2m and 70cms FM running into a vertical with a desktop PC using Wintest.

The 4<sup>th</sup> station was set up portable on Sunday morning by Pat EI2HX and Tony EI4DIB and was a 1.2GHz ATV station which worked EI9FX and EI7CHB. Pat also recorded while transmitting some video of the whole event.

On the Sunday evening we ran a few pile ups on all the bands on CW thanks to Oleg EI2JK. It was difficult to stop him so we could change bands while still running a pile up but we needed





to give everyone a chance to work us on all bands and modes. Late Sunday evening we stripped the 2<sup>nd</sup> HF station and brought the Carolina Windom back to HF 1 so Oleg could continue on 40 and 80 CW. The logs and pictures from all the stations will be put on the website so do check them out at [www.ei7dar.com](http://www.ei7dar.com)

EI7DAR/p station was also set up on Sunday afternoon to enter the IRTS 80m Counties Contest. We made an 80m Inverted V cut for 3.725 MHz in the SSB portion of the band and using another Kenwood TS2000 were able to work SSB and also CW using the built in ATU. We drove a van into the field above Thos's house with a make shift table and seat. We had the Inverted V suspended 40 feet in the air with the aid of a ladder and 20 foot aluminium pole. Signals were all very strong but unfortunately not as many stations on air compared with the January Contest. Please send you logs to [contestmanager@irts.ie](mailto:contestmanager@irts.ie)

Thanks to all who made the weekend a success, those of you who made it down and those that put the EI7DAR call in their logs.  
73 de all at the Dundalk Amateur Radio Society.



Charlie EI8JB on HF with VHF-UHF FM station to his left



Anthony SWL works a 20m pileup as Thos EI2JD checks the cluster



EI7DAR/p Team June 2009  
Oleg EI2JK, Jim MI3SBI, Thos EI2JD, Peter EI4HX



Back : Gareth SWL, Michael EI1581, Charlie EI8JB, Pat EI2HX, Billy MI3WBL  
Front Row: Jim MI3SBI, Kieran EI9DA, Jim EI4BX (President), Thos EI2JD, Richard MI3CQR.



Thos EI2JD running a pile-up on 20m

## Results: CW Field Day 2009

Call Sign	QSOs	Mults	Points	Score
<b>Open Section</b>				
1 EI9HQ/p, Declan Lennon	48	24	161	3,864
<b>Restricted Section</b>				
1 EI2SDR/p, South Dublin Radio Club (Ops: EI4HH, EI5DI, EI7HT, DF4TD)	656	130	2,123	275,990
2 EI3Z/p, Shannon Basin Radio Club (Ops: EI2EO, EI4AL, EI4CF, EI5EAB, EI6IB, EI8IU)	750	94	2,233	209,902



Anthony Dolan EI6GGB, Michael EI4AL; Fergus EI6IB; Pat EI9HX.



**EI2SDR/P at CW Field Day 2009**

L to R: Jim EI4HH, Reinhard DF4TD, Tom EI7HT, Paul EI5DI



Brian EI8IU operating at EI3Z

### SolderSmoke

SolderSmoke is a fortnightly podcast available from [www.soldersmoke.com](http://www.soldersmoke.com) which covers current and topical news items in the field of amateur radio and specialising in workbench projects. The podcast is hosted by Bill Meara, N2CQR. Recently Bill published the book, SolderSmoke, which is a story about his "afterhours life" in electronics. The book is a technical memoir with solutions to those problems one encounters in the understanding of certain facets of electronics and the design of homebrew equipment. The book is available from [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com) and costs €18.23. Highly recommended as reading material for a long journey and for those dabbling in home construction.

### Cork-Swansea Ferry Special Event Stations

To celebrate the return of the Fastnet Line Cork to Swansea ferry Innisfallen, special event call signs EI2GBW and GB2EI will be QRV from now through re-start of the service in March 2010. Activations will include arrival of the ship at Customs House Quay, Cork in August and proposed /MM operation during trial runs to Swansea. See [QRZ.com](http://QRZ.com) for further details.

### Radio News Deadline Noon on Thursdays

**News Editor**  
**Charlie Carolan EI8JB**  
Input for the radio news should be sent via e-mail to [charlie.carolan@gmail.com](mailto:charlie.carolan@gmail.com). or [newsteam@irts.ie](mailto:newsteam@irts.ie) or by phone to 087-6265418



# EI's on EQSL

(as at July 1st 2009)

DXCC Confirmed			Worked All States		
198	EI7BA (+7)	Approved	50	EI4CF	Approved
167	EI3IO (+1)		50	EI9FBB	Approved
157	EI4CF	Approved	50	EJ9FBB	Approved
151	EI2JD (+6)	Approved	50	EI9HX	
148	EI9FBB (+5)	Approved	49	EI9HQ	
140	EI7CC		49	EJ9HQ	
140	EI9FBB	Approved	47	EI6HB	
138	EI6IZ	Approved	46	EI3IO	
138	EI9HX		45	EI8GP	
129	EI0CZ		45	EI4BZ (New)	
106	EI3GYB		44	EI4IS	
106	EI6AL (+3)	Approved	44	EI5GM	
104	EI9FVB (+5)	AG	44	EI7BA (+1)	
102	EI6JK		43	EI7JN	
98	EI4BZ (New)		41	EI2JD (+1)	
97	EI6HB	AG	38	EI5IF	
97	EI8IU (+2)	Bronze AG	36	EI0W (+2)	
97	EI9HQ (+1)	Approved	36	EI9HW	
93	EI8FH (+3)	Approved	35	EI7CC	
92	EI5IF	AG	32	EI6JK (+2)	
92	EJ9HQ	Approved	30	EI9ES (+1)	
86	EI9ES	Approved	30	EI4GXB	
84	EI1DG	AG	30	EI4GMB (+1)	
82	EI4GXB		29	EI9FVB	
81	EI5GM (+3)		26	EI6AL	
79	EI0W (+3)		26	EI9JM (+1)	
79	EI7DAR (New)		25	EI9O (+5)	
73	EI7IX	Approved	02	EI7IW	
73	EI4GNB (+1)	Approved			
71	EI3HA (+2)	Approved			
71	EJ3HA (New)	Gold AG	40	EI9FBB (+1)	Approved
70	EI9O (+7)	AG	39	EI4CF	
68	EI8JR (2)	AG	39	EI7BA	
69	EI2II	Approved	39	EI9HX	
69	EI8GP		38	EI2JD (+2)	
68	EI/DH0GSU/p		38	EJ9FBB	
67	EI4HH	Approved	37	EI3IO	
67	EI4HQ	AG	33	EI7CC	
67	EI9CF (+27)	Silver AG	31	EI5IF	
65	EI7M		31	EI6AL	
65	EI8DD	Approved	31	EI6JK	
65	EI8DL	Approved	31	EI4BZ (New)	
61	EI4IS		30	EI3GYB	
60	EI7JN	Silver	28	EI4GMB	
60	EI9JM	AG	28	EI4GXB (New)	
58	EI6IL (+5)	Approved	25	EI0W	
58	EI9JF		22	EI7JN	
56	EI5GJB (+4)	Approved	19	EI9O (+1)	
56	EI7BMB	AG	07	EI4HX	
54	EI7IQ	AG	06	EI7IW	
53	EI7BFB (+5)	Approved			
52	EI6ARB	Approved	1066	EI4CF (+17)	
52	EI6CPB	Approved	850	EI2JD (+25)	Approved
50	EI6AK	AG	736	EI3IO (+27)	
50	EI8JK	AG	706	EI9FBB (+21)	Approved
49	EI2FSB	Approved	688	EI9HQ (+24)	Approved
48	EI8IQ		608	EI7CC	
44	EI5GSB (+3)	Approved	569	EI0W (+34)	
43	EI7IM		540	EI4BZ (New)	
43	EI7IS (New)	Bronze AG	532	EI7BA (+46)	
42	EI5IX	Silver	483	EI9FVB (+31)	
41	EI3EBB		482	EI6JK	
39	EI6IF	AG	371	EI5GM (+38)	
39	EI9EW	Approved	348	EI5IF	
36	EI2GLB	Approved	319	EI4GXB	
34	EI1KARG		299	EI8GP	
34	EI3JB	AG	291	EI9JM	
33	EI1571 (+2)	Approved	281	EI8IU (+114)	
32	EI90GPO (+1)	AG	213	EI7JN	
31	EI7GM (+2)	Approved	200	EI4GMB	
29	EI4GMB (New)		166	EI9O (+5)	
27	EI1429 (New)	Bronze	166	EI8DL	
27	EI3GDB	AG	49	EI7IW	
25	EI2FS		31	EI4HX	
24	EI7IW	Silver AG	13	EI4DIB (New)	
20	EI0CPL				
20	EI2IV				
18	EI4HX				

EQSL list maintained by EI2JD  
If you are not on the list please send up-  
dates to thoscaffrey@hotmail.com

# EI DXCC Listings

(as at July 1st 2009)

Mixed		80m	
352	EI8H	184	EI7BA (+17)
350	EI6S	169	EI9FBB (+22)
347	EI7CC	108	EI2JD (+8)
341	EI6FR	104	EI4BZ
340	EI2GS		
321	EI3IO	40m	
306	EI2HY	210	EI7BA (+25)
305	EI7BA (+11)	203	EI9FBB (+16)
282	EI9FBB (+17)	145	EI2JD (+16)
270	EI2CR	117	EI7GL
262	EI2GX	113	EI6IZ
253	EI2JD (+15)	112	EI4BZ
248	EI9JF	30m	
232	EI4BZ	187	EI7BA (+22)
211	EI6IZ	130	EI9FBB (+27)
205	EI5GM	112	EI6IZ
189	EI8IU	106	EI4BZ
152	EI6HB	20m	
141	EI9O (+7)	259	EI9FBB (+33)
134	EI9HQ (+3)	245	EI7BA (+24)
128	EI8HA	182	EI2JD (+13)
103	EI6AL	150	EI4BZ
103	EI9FVB	150	EI9JF
100	EI4GXB	121	EI6IZ
		111	EI8GS
		110	EI3GV
		105	EI9HQ (+3)
Phone			
345	EI7CC		
344	EI6S		
338	EI2GS	17m	
334	EI8EM	230	EI7BA (+29)
331	EI8AR	184	EI9FBB (+39)
317	EI6FR		
300	EI8AU	15m	
277	EI3GV	204	EI7BA (+22)
271	EI9FBB (+10)	174	EI9FBB (+23)
256	EI7BA (+18)	164	EI4BZ
253	EI4GK	151	EI9FBB
234	EI2JD (+13)	136	EI2JD (+10)
229	EI8GS	109	EI8GS
213	EI7GL	108	EI3GV
193	EI9JF	12m	
186	EI7II	147	EI7BA (+15)
177	EI9FE		
165	EI2CH	10m	
147	EI4BZ	173	EI7BA (+19)
135	EI8IU	144	EI7GL
129	EI9HQ (+4)	134	EI4BZ
119	EI4HH	131	EI2JD (+3)
114	EI4EX	128	EI4GK
108	EI6HB	118	EI9FBB (+12)
105	EI9HX	104	EI8GS
105	EI1CS	6m	
103	EI9FVB	155	EI3IO
101	EI3IP	111	EI7GL
		101	EI3EBB
CW			
314	EI7CC	2m	No entry
289	EI7BA (+16)		
255	EI6FR		
220	EI4BZ		
208	EI9FBB (+49)		
197	EI6IZ		
184	EI2JD (+17)		
178	EI9JF		
134	EI8IU		
109	EI2IH		
109	EI4HM		
107	EI/GM4ARJ		
106	EI1DG		
100	EI6AL		
RTTY/Digital			
108	EI6FR		
102	EI6HB		
Satellite - No Entry			
160m			
184	EI3IO		
131	EI7BA (+19)		
		QRP DXCC No Entry	
		DXCC Challenge	
		1,722	EI7BA (+193)
		1,521	EI7CC
		1,412	EI9FBB (+278)
		1,389	EI3IO
		1,175	EI6FR
		1,030	EI2JD (New)
		DXCC Honor Roll	
Mixed			
		338	EI6FR/341
		335	EI2GS/340
		335	EI6S/350
		335	EI7CC/347
Phone			
		333	EI2GS/338
		333	EI7CC/345
		331	EI6S/344
		329	EI8EM/334

## 500 kHz Permissions.

Good news. On Thursday June 4th a Test Licence was issued by ComReg to IRTS under the Wireless Telegraphy (Research and Development Licence) Regulations, 2005 in connection with operation on 500 kHz.

The licence was issued on the basis of an application submitted by IRTS and expressions of interest received from a small number of licensees.

Under the licence the eight participating stations who submitted expressions of interest have been authorised to operate in the band 501 to 504 kHz with a power of 10 dBW ERP (10 watts ERP) using CW or PSK31.

We are very pleased that EI has joined the small but growing number of countries that have given some limited access to frequencies in the region of 500 kHz.

These permissions are helping to strengthen the case for a small world-wide allocation in the 500 kHz region which is an objective of the IARU and which is an agenda item for consideration at WRC-11.

The Society would like to thank ComReg for its cooperative approach to his matter and for the quick turn around on the issue of the necessary licence.

## Volvo Ocean Yacht Race

The Galway Radio Experimenters Club ran a Special Event station for the Volvo Ocean Yacht Race, which visited Galway from May 23rd 2009 to June 6th 2009.

EI09VOR (Echo India Zero Nine Victor Oscar Romeo) was on the air through out the festival from the old lighthouse on Mutton Island, the finish line for stage 7 of the race.

They were QRV on HF, SSB and CW also monitoring the local repeater R1 (145.625 MHz, IRLP Node 5682).

Mutton Island lighthouse was built in 1817 and was in operation until December 1977.

Recently a restoration project was undertaken by Galway Civic Trust with the help of FÁS to preserve this wonderful landmark.

The Galway Radio Experimenters Club would like to thank Mr Jim Higgins, Heritage Officer with Galway City Council, for his help and support.

## Galway VHF Group 80m Counties Contest

A decision was taken for a very hurried and last minute entry for the 80 metre Counties contest run by the IRTS on Sunday the 21st of June '09. At the crack of dawn Steve EI5DD, cut a doublet antenna for 80 metres and also serviced a small portable generator. By 10am things were looking very positive. A call to Arthur, EI7GMB, successfully drew a willing member from his slumbers and he was ready within the hour to go hunting for a site.

Bearing in mind that Galway is not exactly renowned for a large number of locations with easily accessible sites with decent trees to hang antennas from, there was a possibility of a long drive before finding the ideal spot. A drive from Galway to Moycullen and then into the hills came up with a perfect location in the form of an entrance to a forestry plantation with a "No Trespassers" sign on the gate. A nice parking area in front of the gate, however, with enough room to string the antenna from one side to the other and EI4ALE/P was on the air in record time.

Conditions on 80 metres were not exactly ideal being the time of day and year that was in it. Some excellent signal strengths were noted although QSB was evident. The contest kicked in and a large number of stations were calling CQ. The generator was not exactly stable but lasted well throughout the event. A total of 48 stations were worked with 27 counties in total between EI and GI. A notable contact was that with Joe, EI7GY/P who was sending a good and strong signal into Galway.

This was a great afternoon of activity coupled with excellent weather and reasonable conditions on the 80 metre band. For Arthur, this was his first time operating in a radio contest but needless to say it will be the first of many.



## 80m Counties Contest

There was once again a big turn out for the 80m Counties Contest, although maybe not quite the numbers active on New Year's Day. It would appear around 80 stations participated from twenty-eight counties. Conditions were good with strong signals from many stations.

The AREN demonstration station at the Civil Defence Headquarters in Roscrea was very successful and a DVD video of the exercise is being put together for interested parties.

In that regard, if any of the stations that were portable on the day have photos or video of their operation, Seamus EI8BP would be grateful to receive a copy of same with a view to including any suitable clips. We hope the exercise sparked your interest in AREN who are always keen to involve more operators and SWLs in their activities. Contact them via their website [www.AREN.ie](http://www.AREN.ie) where you will find more details of their activities.

Our thanks to all who made the effort to come on the bands during the afternoon.

Irish Radio Transmitters Society

# The Shop



## 10% discount for IRTS members on Amateur Radio Books

### Try it today

## [www.irtsshop.com](http://www.irtsshop.com)



**CB Radio's**

**Amateur Radio's**

**Accessories**

**www.scorpiontechnology.ie**  
**sales@scorpiontechnology.ie**

## SEARG on the Copper Coast

SEARG operated the Special Event station EI2GEO from Tankardstown, Bonmahon on the Copper Coast Geopark in Co. Waterford over the weekend of the 23rd and 24th of May as part of the Geopark Communications Weekend which runs as part of European Geopark Week.

Many stations were QRV from various locations throughout the world over the weekend and the event was co-ordinated from GB6GEO at the English Riviera Global Geopark.

Anybody who made contacts with Geopark stations during the weekend may be eligible for an award.

More information is available from Martin Foster, G3VOF and Martins details are available on QRZ.com.

The Copper Coast is an outdoor geology museum with geological heritage that reflects a variety of environments under which the area has evolved over the last 460 million years. Sedimentary and volcanic rocks illustrate the closure of the Iapetus Ocean, the resulting volcanic activity, evidence of the collision of two continents leading to the creation of Ireland and finally the effects of glaciation from the Ice Age. Cross-sections of these are exposed on the many spectacular cliffs along the Co. Waterford coastline.

SEARG would like to thank everyone who participated, provided equipment, erected antennas, those who visited over the weekend, the Copper Coast Geopark management and notably Jim Farrell, EI8IG who supplied a camper van to use as a portable radio shack for the event. A very successful Geopark weekend was enjoyed by all involved and members of SEARG are looking forward to taking part again next year..

## Contest Calendar

All Times UTC

### July 2009

18	Sat 0700 - 1459	Russian Radio Team C'ship	CW/SSB
18-19	Sat 1200 - Sun 1200	DMC RTTY Contest	RTTY
18-19	Sat 1800 - Sun 2100	CQ World-Wide VHF Contest	All
18-19	Sat 1800 - Sun 0600	North American QSO Party	RTTY
23	Thu 1900 - 2030	RSGB 80 m Club Championship	PSK/RTTY
24	Fri 0230 - 0300	NCCC Sprint Ladder	CW
25-26	Sat 1200 - Sun 1200	IOTA SWL Contest	CW/SSB
25-26	Sat 1200 - Sun 1200	RSGB IOTA Contest	CW/SSB
31	Fri 0230 - 0300	NCCC Sprint Ladder	CW

### August 2009

2-9	Sat 0001 - Sat 2359	National Lighthouse-Lightship Week	All
9-10	Sat 0000 - Sun 2359	Worked All Europe DX-Contest	CW
16	Sat 0000 - 0800	SARTG WW RTTY Contest (1)	RTTY
16-17	Sat 1200 - Sun 1200	Keymen's Club of Japan (KCJ)	CW
16	Sat 1600 - 2400	SARTG WW RTTY Contest (2)	RTTY
17	Sun 0800 - 1600	SARTG WW RTTY Contest (3)	RTTY
23-24	Sat 0700 - Sun 2200	Hawaii QSO Party	
30	Sun 1300 - Sun 1500	IRTS 2m Counties Contest	SSB/CW/FM
30-31	Sat 1200 - Sun 1159	YO DX HF Contest	CW/SSB

### September 2009

**5-6 Sat 1300 - Sun 1300 IRTS HF SSB Field Day CW**

For details of smaller contests and links to contest rules and results try the following:

WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

SM3CER Contest Service <http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/>

## Theory Examination

Thirty-two candidates sat the theory examination which was held on Tuesday 30th June.

Examinations were held in three centres - the ComReg Offices in Dublin, the Carrigtwohill Community Centre in Cork and the Letterkenny Institute of Technology in Donegal.

Results should be with the students by the time you read this and we look forward to many news callsigns on the bands.

## Date for Mayo Rally Announced.

The 2009 Mayo Rally will be held on Sunday November 22nd in Castlebar.

The venue is The Welcome Inn Hotel, where the 2008 rally was held at short notice, and doors open at 11.00am.

Rally Director, Padraic Baynes, EI9JA, is now taking bookings for stands at the rally. He can be contacted on 087 6957154. The hotel will be offering a rally special deal for accommodation. Full details will be available soon.

## Results: 2m Counties Contest, Spring 2009

			Valid QSO's	Counties	Score	Location
--	--	--	----------------	----------	-------	----------

### (a) High Power Portable

*EI*	EI2GLB/P	Trevor Dunne	51	21	5,271	LAO
	EI6IQ/P	David Corbett	51	18	3,834	MON

### (b) Low Power Portable - max 10w

*EI*	EI7MRE/P	Mayo REN (ops, EI2GCB, EI9JA)	21	12	1,068	MAY
	EI3GTB/P	Ciarán Fagan	19	10	860	LON

### (c) High Power Fixed

*EI*	EI4CF	Niall Foley	29	14	1,680	GAL
	EI7DAR	Dundalk ARS	22	8	424	LOU
	EI9ES	Peter Morrison	9	5	200	DUB

*OEI*	GI4SRQ	George McHugh	15	6	156	ARM
-------	--------	---------------	----	---	-----	-----

### (d) Low Power Fixed - max 10w

*EI*	EI9O	Eoin Fagan	20	11	968	LON
	EI3ENB	Paul Norris	18	8	448	KLK
	EI3GYB	John Flavin	12	4	140	MAY

### (E) FM Only -Single Op

*EI*	EI4HX/P	Peter Grant	28	11	1067	LOU
	EI2GFB/P	Declan Mayock	21	11	946	MAY
	EI3FFB	Eamonn Kavanagh	22	13	793	TIP
	EI6IW/P	John Edgeworth	14	13	741	TIP
	EI9FVB/P	Declan Horan	18	8	672	KER

### Check logs

EI2JD, Thos - Contest Manager	12	6	222	LOU
-------------------------------	----	---	-----	-----

\*EI\* = Award Winner : Leading EI Station

\*OEI\* = Award Winner : Leading station outside EI

## Hal Hodgens Key Winner 2008 Peter Morrison EI9ES



Peter Morrison EI9ES being presented with the Hal Hodgens Key for IOTA 2008 by IRTS Treasurer Sean Donelan EI4GK.

The Hal Hodgens Key is awarded to the highest scoring IRTS member in the 12 CW section of the IOTA Contest.

## The 34th Ham Radio in Friedrichshafen

The 34th Ham Radio in Friedrichshafen had 17,400 visitors over the three days, with 195 exhibitors and associations from 30 nations. Visitor numbers were slightly up on last year, for the three days visitors streamed into the Messe fair grounds from all over the world.

There were many visitors to the IRTS stand during the course of the event and upwards of twenty EI 's attended. Among the material displayed on the stand was a set of charts prepared by John EI7BV which traced the changes in the amateur bands at each of the World Conferences from 1927 to date. Needless to say these generated a good deal of interest and are a significant historical resource.

You can make a note of the dates of the 35th HAM RADIO: from the 25th through 27th June 2010 in Friedrichshafen.



**The Daily DX** - is a text DX bulletin that can be sent via e-mail to your home or office Monday through Friday and includes DX news, IOTA news, QSN reports, QSL information, a DX Calendar, propagation forecast and much, much more. With a subscription to The Daily DX you will also receive DX news flashes and other interesting DX tidbits.  
*Subscriptions are \$49.00 for one year or \$28.00 for 6 months.*



**The Weekly DX** - is a product of The Daily DX that can be sent weekly to your home or office via e-mail in the form of a PDF (portable document format). It includes DX news, IOTA news, QSN reports, QSL information, a DX Calendar, propagation forecast and graphics.  
*Subscriptions are \$27.00 for one year.*

Get a free two weeks of The Daily DX or a free sample of The Weekly DX by sending a request to [bernie@dailydx.com](mailto:bernie@dailydx.com).

# JBT Trading

**MI0JBT Jim Bob Traynor, Limavady, Northern Ireland**

**Specialising in the supply of new & used amateur and CB radio equipment.**

**Always wanted - good clean used equipment.**

**Tel/Fax: 028 77765045    Mobile: 0774 0721770    Email: jimbobtraynor@utvinternet.co.uk**  
**www.mi0jbt.com**

## Used Price List

Kenwood TS480X - 200w - Good condx .....	£655.00
Kenwood TS2000. Mint Boxed with Manual, .....	£1,100.00
Yaesu FT-857 DSP - VG condx, boxed, manual etc ..	£445.00
Yaesu FT-847 - Good condx with manual etc .....	£799.00
Yaesu FT1000 MK5. Mint, 200w, Boxed with manual, power supply and power lead.....	£1,350.00
Yaesu FT-817 - Mint, Boxed, as new.....	£310.00
Yaesu GS065 New Mast Head Bearing.....	£49.50
Icom IC-756 Pro II Mint, Box, manual mic/pwr lead..	£999.00
Icom IC7000 Boxed/Manuals etc. Only 3 months old.	£695.00
Icom IC-706 MK1. Clean, Manual, power lead etc .....	£325.00
Icom IC-706 MKII, Clean, Manual, Power lead etc. ..	£425.00
Icom IC-706 MKIIG Clean, Manual, Power lead etc. ..	£525.00
Watson 30A PSU New .....	£129.00
Watson New Hunter Frequency Finder .....	£59.00
Watson FC130 New Frequency Finder .....	£79.00

## New Power Supplies.

### Power-Mite - NF.

22 Amp continuous, Switch Mode Power Supply  
 Variable Voltage Mini Size, noise offset.....€78.95

### Power-Max-25 - NF.

22 Amp continuous Switch Mode, Variable Voltage  
 Power Supply, Volt and Amp meters, Noise offset....€117.50

### Power-Max-45 - NF.

38 Amp continuous Switch Mode, Variable Voltage  
 Power Supply, Volt and Amp meters, Noise offset....€156.00

### W-25AM Watson

25A Variable Voltage Power Supply plus  
 Volt/Amp meters, 0 - 15V DC, Cigar Socket,  
 Front Panel Fuse. Size 240 x 15 x 230mm .....€117.00

### W-30AM Watson 30A

Variable Voltage Power Supply plus  
 Volt/Amp meters, 35A Peak, Over current  
 protected, 3 sets of terminals, Cigar Socket,  
 Front panel fuse .....€156.00

### GZV 2500 Diamond 25A

3-15V Variable Switch Mode Power Supply,  
 25A continuous. Built-in cooling fan.  
 Size 210 x 110 x 220mm, Weight 2.5kg .....€188.00

## New Radio Stock

### Current Price List

Yaesu - FT-7800 .....	€189.00
Yaesu - FT-8800 .....	€269.00
Yaesu - FT-8900R.....	€299.00
Yaesu - FT-817ND.....	€399.00
Yaesu - FT-857D .....	€529.00
Yaesu - FT-897 .....	€599.00
Yaesu - MMB80 - Mounting Bracket for FT897.....	£15.94
Yaesu - FT-450 .....	€529.00
Yaesu - FT-950 .....	€899.00
Yaesu - FT-2000 .....	€1,899.00
Yaesu - MS100ASX - Desktop Microphone .....	£116.95
Yaesu - MD200ASX - Ultra Hi-FI Desktop Mic.....	£192.95
Yaesu - DMU-2000 - Data Management Unit.....	£799.00
Icom - IC-E20S .....	€254.00
Icom - IC-2725E .....	€319.00
Icom - IC-706 MKIIG .....	€729.00
Icom - IC-7000.....	€929.00
Icom - IC-7400.....	€1,330.00
Icom - SM-20 - Base Station Desk Microphone.....	£144.98
Icom - SP-21 - Desktop Speaker for IC7400 .....	£74.99
Kenwood TM-D710E.....	£399.00
Kenwood TM-V71E.....	£259.00
Kenwood TS-480SAT .....	£699.00
Kenwood TS-480HX .....	£765.00
Kenwood TS-2000 .....	£1,369.00

**Trade-ins are always welcome.**

**All emails will be answered a.s.a.p.**

**Paypal and all major credit cards accepted**

**Always wanted:**

**Good clean used radio gear**

**Cash waiting for your unwanted items**

**Large range of accessories**

**See [www.mi0jbt.com](http://www.mi0jbt.com)**



# South East Communications

**Amateur Radio  
Marine VHF  
Shortwave Receivers  
Scanning Receivers  
GPS Systems  
Accessories**



**Gary O'Hanlon,  
Ashbury House,  
Dunmore East,  
Co. Waterford.  
Tel: 051-385853  
087-2513772**

## Used Equipment

### All prices for straight sales

Alinco DJV5 2m/70cm Handheld Nicads & charger. Boxed .....	€159.00
AOR 3000A 0-2036 MHz, 400 memories. All Mode .....	€499.00
AOR 7030 Award winning Rx. 0-30MHz Boxed/mint .....	€599.00
AOR-8200 Mk2, 0-260-0 MHz. All mode handheld .....	€249.00
AOT 7030+. Award winning Receiver. Boxed, Mint .....	€799.00
Garmin Quest Handheld GPS. Ireland & Europe .....	€125.00
Garmin Nuvi 860T Voice activated Sat Nav Europe wide maps 10 months old. New €599.00 now only .....	€250.00
GRE PSR 225 500 channel Base Scanner. 25-1300 MHz .....	€239.00
Icom IC/PS15. 20A Power Supply .....	€99.00
Icom ICR 8500 0-2000MHz. All mode Base Receiver .....	€199.00
Icom AH-4, HF + 6m Auto ATU .....	€299.00
Icom PS-125 Matching PSU for IC-746 & PRO Series .....	€249.00
Icom ICR-10 0-1300MHz All mode handheld scanner .....	€249.00
Icom ICR-7100, 25-2000MHz Rx, 1,000 Mems, all mode .....	€699.00
Icom ICR 72 Shortwave Receiver. 0-30MHz. Good Condition .....	€399.00
Icom SP21. Notching speaker for IC7400/756/746 etc .....	€69.00
Icom IC706 MK2. HF + 6m & 2m. Mobile .....	€649.00
Icom SM20 Desk Mic. As new condition .....	€129.00
Icom IC 706 MK2G with FM100 filter .....	€699.00
Icom ICR 2500. Base/mobile. Rx 0-3300 MHz remote head dual Rx .....	€475.00
Icom IC-91E, 2m/70cm Handheld. D-Star fitted .....	€349.00
Icom IC-746, 100w HF/6m/2m Auto ATU .....	€949.00
Icom IC-821H 2m/70cm 45/35w base multi-mode, .....	€799.00
JRC NRD 545 DSP Receiver. Professional Quality .....	€1,249.00
Kenwood AT-50. Matching Auto Tuner for TS-50 .....	€249.00
Kenwood TM455E 45w, 70cm multi-mode, .....	€249.00
Kenwood TS-570DGE, HF rig with DSP AUTO ATU .....	€899.00
Kenwood TS-790 2m/70cm/23cm. All mode base stn .....	€899.00
Kenwood TS-850SAT, Auto ATU. Mint, Boxed .....	€799.00
Kenwood TS-2000, HF /70cms, Auto ATU, Boxed, .....	€1,149.00
Kenwood TS-870SAT. HF Rig DSP + Auto ATU .....	€1,099.00
Kenwood 480HX 200watts. HF + 6m base/mobile .....	€689.00
Kenwood TH F7E Dual band 2/70cm Handheld 0-1300 MHz Rx .....	€219.00
Kenwood/Trio TS711E. 2m/25w base multimode .....	€349.00
Kenwood PS-33 20A matching PSU TS-850 etc .....	€199.00
Kenwood TS0450SAT, 100w HF + Auto ATU .....	€699.00
LDG AT1000. 1 Kw Auto Tuner. Good Condition .....	€275.00
Linear Amp UK. 700w 70cm Amp. Bargain .....	€899.00
MFJ 949E 300w Antenna with dummy load .....	€149.00
MFJ 993B. 300 watt Auto ATU. Cross needle + LCD Bar Graph .....	€229.00
MFJ 934 Antenna Tuner/artificial ground .....	€99.00
MFJ 925 Mighty Mite compact auto ATU. IC706 size. New .....	€225.00
Realistic DX394. 0-30 MHz all mode Shortwave Receiver .....	€199.00
Realistic PRO 2006. 25-1300 MHz. 400 memories .....	€175.00
Rigblaster Plus multi mode data decoder .....	€149.00
Sony ICF-SW7600G, Portable SW Rx with FM .....	€129.00
Watson 22 Amp 0-15v PSU. Special offer - New! .....	€89.00
Yaesu MD-1 Desk Mic for FT990, FT736, FT1000 etc .....	€89.00
Yaesu FT-847 Earth Station. HF/6m/2m/70cm. ....	€1,099.00
Yaesu FT-920AF, HF + 6m, Auto ATU, DSP .....	€899.00
Yaesu FC-20 Auto ATU for FT-847 etc .....	€275.00



### AirNav RadarBox

the world's best selling and most advanced Real Time Virtual Radar. Real plug and play and best graphics by far.

**Special this month at only €449.00**



## W-8681 Wireless Weather Station

### Special Offer

**This month only  
€99.00**

### \*\*Special Offer\*\*

**Tokyo HL 1.5KFX. 1kW HF/6m Amplifier.**

**R.R.P. €4,449.00 - 1 only at €2,799.00**

Yaesu FT-2000, Boxed, mint, as new .....	€1,889.00
Yaesu FT-840. Good starter HF Rig. 100w. Good Condition .....	€475.00
Yaesu FT-8800 True dual band mobile up to 999 MHz receive .....	€229.00
Yaesu VX170. 2m 5w Handheld with nicads & charger .....	€119.00
Yaesu FT-1000MK5. 200w. All Mode. ....	€1,699.00
Yaesu FT-1000MK5 Field. 100w. Built in PSU/ATU .....	€1,449.00
Yaesu VR5000. 0-2600MHz. Base/mobile. Mint. ....	€429.00
ICE 92D True Dual Band Handheld with D star fitted including	
HM175 GPS speaker mic for above with GPS receiver built in.	
Icom CP 19R cigar cable. Total price new was €829.00 now only .....	€529.00



### Eton Satellite 750

**New Top Class S/W Rx  
(replacing the Grundig Satellite)**

**Price ...€349.00**

## 2 Only - Pro User 850w Generators.

**Ideal for camping/field days etc.**

**Special Price inc. delivery 26 Countie ....€129.00**

*We stock a wide range of used equipment and a full range of new Icom, Yaesu, Kenwood, Alinco, Watson, Cushcraft, MFJ, Diamond, Uniden radios and accessories.*

**C.O.D. - Next Day Delivery**

**www.sec.ie**